

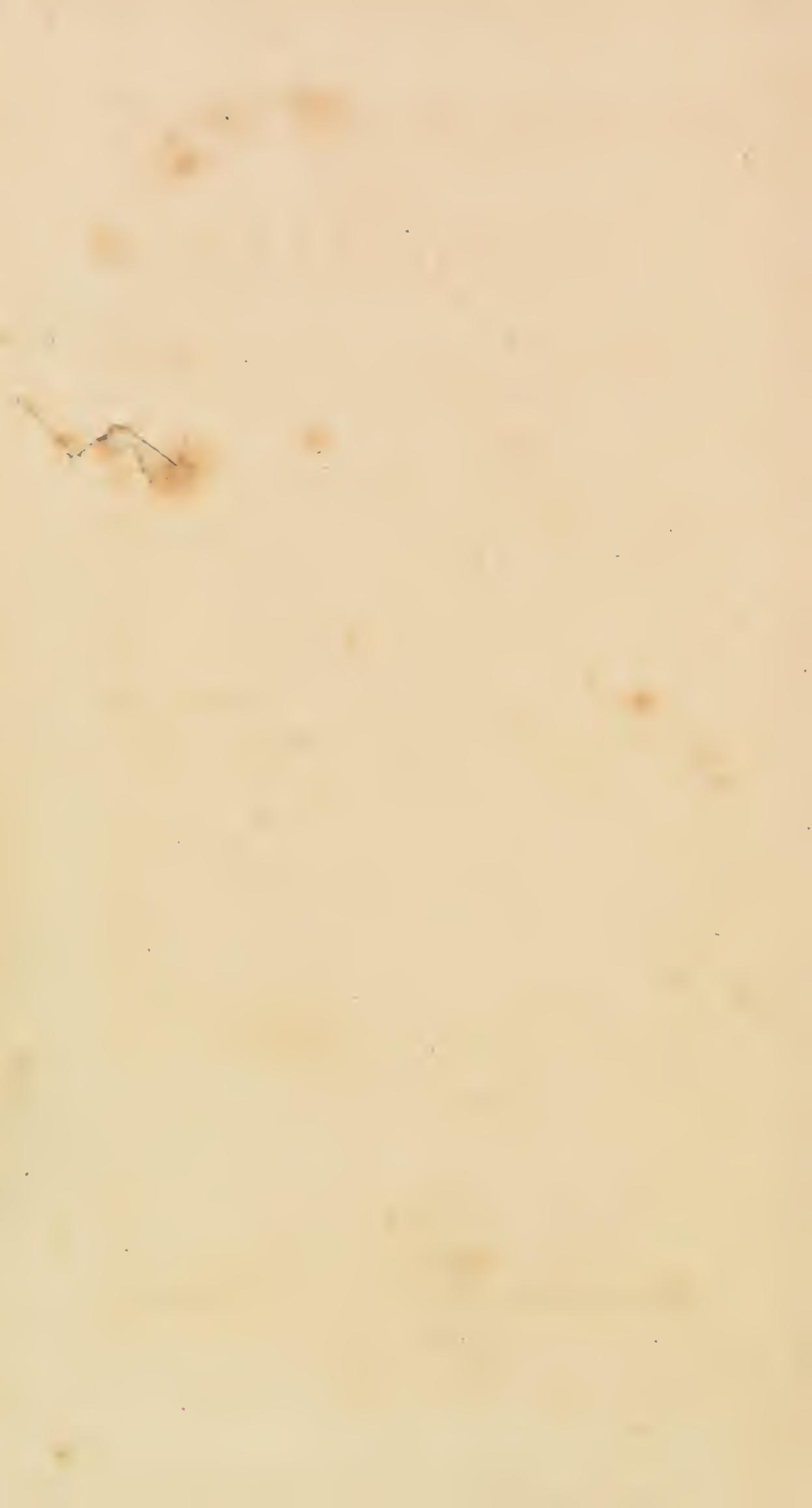


F. (x)  
19/8

Wilk

Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29318877>



18-10

THE  
**S Y P H I L I S T ;**  
A  
FAMILIAR TREATISE ON THE NATURE  
SYMPTOMS AND EFFECTS  
OF  
**L U E S V E N E R E A ,**  
**G O N O R R H O E A , G L E E T , S T R I C T U R E ,**  
AND A  
VARIETY OF INCIDENTAL DISEASES ;  
WITH MANY  
*INTERESTING OBSERVATIONS AND REMARKS,*  
OCCURRING IN A MOST EXTENSIVE PRACTICE.  
TO WHICH IS APPENDED,  
A SERIES OF CASES,  
EXPLANATORY OF EACH SUBJECT.

---

BY  
**G O S S A N D C O M P A N Y ,**  
CONSULTING SURGEONS, LONDON.

---

TWENTIETH EDITION.

---

LONDON :  
PRINTED FOR THE AUTHORS ;  
PUBLISHED BY SHERWOOD AND CO. PATERNOSTER-ROW ;  
AND TO BE HAD OF ALL BOOKSELLERS.

(Price Five Shillings.)

---

1830.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY DIGGENS AND JONES, LEICESTER STREET,  
LEICESTER SQUARE.

## C O N T E N T S.

---

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	iii.
HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE VENEREAL DISEASE	7

## PART THE FIRST.

SECTION I.	
On Gonorrhœa . . . . .	21
SECTION II.	
On Chordee . . . . .	29
SECTION III.	
On Phymosis and Paraphymosis . . . . .	30
SECTION IV.	
On Hernia Humoralis, or Swelled Testicle . . . . .	32
SECTION V.	
Wasting of the Testicles . . . . .	33
SECTION VI.	
On Bubo . . . . .	35
SECTION VII.	
On Gleet . . . . .	36

ii.

SECTION VIII.

On Stricture . . . . .	38
------------------------	----

SECTION IX.

Incidental Diseases . . . . .	45
Cancer of the Penis . . . . .	46

SECTION X.

On Lues Venerea, or Syphilis; or, as it is vulgarly termed, confirmed Pox . . . . .	47
Chancre . . . . .	49
Some Topical Effects of Chancre in Men . . . . .	51
Syphilitic Bubo . . . . .	54
Warts . . . . .	56
Secondary Symptoms . . . . .	57
Venereal Eruptions . . . . .	60
Second Class of Secondary Symptoms . . . . .	61

PART THE SECOND.

Notice to Patients . . . . .	76
Cases . . . . .	79
Supplementary Cases . . . . .	119
Conclusion . . . . .	122

## INTRODUCTION.

---

THE profession and the public have been so inundated with works pretending to describe and cure those ailments which are the subject of the present Treatise, that some reason may be demanded to justify the obtrusion of a new work upon the already surfeited appetite of the age. Our ground of defence may perhaps appear singular, as it rests materially on the multiplicity of the kind—for it is notorious, that with a few exceptions, they are the offspring of interested empirics, whose object has been through these *media*, to puff into reputation certain nostrums, of which the proprietorship is vested in themselves. Hence it follows as a natural consequence, that whatever be the disorders treated of, however opposed in their nature and symptoms, and however antagonist in their opera-

tion, the same treatment is directed and the same medicine is prescribed. Thus a reference to such pages will exhibit *venereal complaints*, *epilepsy*, *cancer*, and even *madness*, as being made to acknowledge the talismanic influence of the same omnipotent remedy ; alike applicable to the robust and the feeble, the plethoric and emaciated, in all stages, varieties, and climates. We might quote many instances in proof of this position, where the nostrum-venders having compounded a something which perplexes analysis, immediately write an elaborate descant upon its assumed proprieties ; and no sooner have they succeeded in forcing it into circulation, than in the arrogance of triumphant cunning, they adopt the ejaculation of *Ovid*,—

“ Jamque opus exegi, quod nec Jovis ira, nec ignis,  
Nec poterit ferrum, nec edax abolere vetustas.”

or perhaps greet us, in simple English, with—

“ Let the wise of all ages e'en laugh as they will,  
A well-furnished purse is the best proof of skill.”\*

\* Among the most general modes of publicity which the empiric adopts, is that of the handbill—this is an old fashion, for in the March to Finchley, Hogarth makes the anxious countenance of a serjeant, who is micturating against a wall, suddenly illumined by the sight of Dr. Rock's advertisement of an infallible cure for a disease the most acute sensations of which he at that moment experiences.

Dr. Johnson observes, “ that those who grow rich “ by administering physic, are not to be numbered “ with them that get money by administering “ poison.” We mean not, however, to detract from the authenticated merits belonging to certain medicines, the sanative influence of which upon specific disorders has been proved and sanctioned by competent judges. Our object is merely to point out to the unwary and inexperienced, the fallacy as well as the dangerous effects of those empiricisms which would attack *all* diseases with the same medicine ; a practice, which, to speak of it in the least unfavourable terms, is not only inconsistent with established principles, but even opposed to common sense.

Our attention, for many years past, has been exclusively directed to the treatment of venereal diseases, and such complaints as arise more immediately from a disorganization of the generative system, whether constitutional or acquired. In this statement we must not be understood to cast the slightest imputation upon the skill of the authorized members of our profession in the treatment of such complaints ; on the contrary, we mean simply to infer, that as in all important

undertakings much can be effected by a division of labour, so it may reasonably be assumed on our own part, that no less can be the result of an unwearyed attention to that particular branch of study, wherein we now offer to the public the knowledge and experience of a long and extensive practice.

*GOSS and COMPANY,*

*Surgeons.*

*Bouverie Street, Fleet Street,  
London.*

## THE SYPHILIST.

---

*Historical Sketch of the Venereal Disease, from earliest Records.—Opinions of the Italians—of Dr. Cullen—of Dr. Holl, of Vienna.—The disease introduced by Columbus into Europe.—Dreadful effects on its first breaking out.—The Greeks and Arabians ignorant of the nature of the Malady.—Obscure notions of Urethral Discharge in the Bible.—Grand discovery of the use of Mercury.—Practices of Quacks.—Opinions of Mr. Hunter and his followers.—Experiments of the Army Surgeons.*

THIS disease has been justly described as one of the most surprising phenomena in the history of medicine, whether as it regards the newness of its origin, the malignant inveteracy of its symptoms, or the singular mode in which it is produced and propagated. Its consequences travel out of the ordinary track of bodily ailment, covering the frame with disgusting evidences of its ruthless nature,

and impregnating the wholesome stream of life with mortal poison. It conveys into families the seeds of disunion and unhappiness, undermining domestic harmony, and striking at the very soul of human intercourse.

Many are the names by whieh this malady has been distinguished, in the gradual development of medieal scienee. The natives of the Indies, where it is endemieal, eall it *Patursa*, by many it is styled *Lues Venerea*, but by *Hier. Fracastorius\**, and subsequently by *Dr. Cullen*, it has been denominated *Syphilis*; and this appears to be the established nomenelature. Syphilis is from the Greek, συφλος, “*filthy*,” a term somewhat too severe, since it is not always the result of impure desires. It arises but too often from hereditary taint, or from the imprudenee of husbands. All the primitive writers eoneur in naming this disease *Morbus Gallicus*, or the French disease, an appellation,

\* Hier. Fracastorius, an Italian, very unfairly charges the French with being the propagators of this scourge, which was evidently communicated to that nation by the Italians themselves. He has the following lines in his poem on Syphilis:

“ Qui casus rerum varii, quæ semina morbum  
Insuetum, nec longa ulli per secula visum  
Attulerint: nostra qui tempestate per omnem  
Europam, partimque Asiæ, Libiæque per urbes  
Sæviit, in Latium vero per tristia bella  
Gallorum irrupuit: nomenque a gente recepit.”

though employed by innumerable foreign and native writers at different periods, is as unjust in fact as absurd in point of description.

There have been some learned disputes as to whether the venereal disease has arisen in modern times, or whether it existed among the ancients. *Dr. Cullen* seems to doubt whether to consider it a species of the leprosy which anciently prevailed in Asia, or an entirely new disease. He says,\* “ It is sufficiently probable, that, anciently “ in certain parts of Asia, where the leprosy pre-“ vailed, and in Europe, after that disease had been “ introduced into it, a disease of the genitals, re-“ sembling that which now commonly arises from “ syphilis, had frequently appeared: but it is “ equally probable that a new disease, and what “ we at present term *Syphilis*, was first brought “ into Europe about the end of the fifteenth cen-“ tury; and that the distemper now so frequently “ occurring, has been very entirely derived from “ that which was imported from America at the “ period mentioned.”

The authorities, however, which favour the assertion of its being a new disease are so many, and of such considerable reputation, that their opinion may be considered established. *Nicholas Leonicenus* demonstrates, that it could not be the

---

\* Vide Cullen's First Lines of Physic. Vol. iv. p. 383.

same disorder with the *Elephantiasis* of Arabia, nor the *Lepra* of Greece, nor the disease called *Lichen*, which many have asserted it to be, because the symptoms of all these maladies are entirely different from those of syphilis. *Fallopious, Massa, Cataneus, Gallus, J. De Vigo, Ubricus de Hutten*, with many others, concur with *Leonicenus*, affirming that the disease, the appearance of which had begun to create such divisions in the medical schools, in its origin and progress, its prognostics and diagnostics, differed from all the known maladies of the age.

Another proof of the newness of this disease has been founded on the silence of all the satirical poets of ancient times, upon a subject which would have afforded them such abundant matter for keen raillery when waging war against the propensities and vices of their days. It is said, indeed, that in the time of Tiberius Cæsar a new disease made its appearance, of which Pliny and Martial took some notice; but this disorder commenced with eruptions on the chin, and during its whole progress was confined to the face—nor do these authors mention any other symptoms by which the disease can be identified with the syphilis of modern times.

A modern author of high celebrity,\* an anti-

---

\* Carmichael.

mercurialist in his practice, labours very industriously to prove that syphilis, and those complaints incidental to the genitals, and treated of by primitive writers, are the same ; and in the course of his work deprecates, in no measured terms, the attempts at cure by the agency of mercurial preparations—it has become the fashion too, among some practitioners in Edinburgh, to decry mercury as a means of cure ; and it is urged that the proof of the utility of the anti-mercurialist plan is clearly manifested by the fact, that among the shops in that city, the sale of mercurial articles is much diminished—as if the sale was not dependent upon the prescriptions of these very practitioners—but this is no argument ; it is the *use* and not the abuse of mercury that is to be encouraged ; and, indeed, Mr. Carmichael himself acknowledges, that in many instances *mercury is highly useful!*

Columbus, the Genoese, doubtless introduced this destructive misery into Europe, and although the fact has been detailed over and over again, a brief reference to the circumstances cannot be omitted in this place without creating a palpable *hiatus* in a treatise professing to be historical.

The commission which gave this bold adventurer authority to pursue his thirst for discovery was signed on the 17th of April, 1492, by Ferdinand and Isabella, king and queen of Castile ; and in the following September, Columbus, with

his followers, sailed from Spain, and discovered those rich islands, which, among other things, were abundantly prolific in this virulent disease. The infection is said to have been as endemical among the natives of those newly discovered countries, as the itch or scurvy among ourselves.

On the return of Columbus to Andalusia in the month of March following, the disease was introduced into Spain. Some months afterwards, when the siege of Naples took place, a reinforcement of Spaniards was sent to the garrison, among which were many infected soldiers, who thus introduced the curse into that city, where it spread through the whole circle of the inhabitants both male and female, with such fearful rapidity and caused such horrible devastations, that the governor and magistrates turned out all the diseased courtezans, as well as all other persons not necessary to the defence of the city. The women thus expelled, being for the most part very beautiful, were eagerly received into the French camp. So speedy and terrible was the influence of the disease upon the besieging army, the physicians being totally unprepared to arrest its progress, that out of a force of sixty thousand men, there scarcely remained sufficient number to carry on the seige.\*

---

\* Seiges appear to foster an inveterate lues—this circumstance is often alluded to in modern times. So late as 1688, after the raising of the celebrated seige of Londonderry, it is stated, that in 105 days, the besieging army had sustained a loss of 9100 men in their abortive

On the first appearance of this disorder in the Italian provinces, the horrid lacerations of the human frame, and the attendant excruciating tortures which it inflicted upon its victims, repelled, like a plague, the approach of pity, and deterred those whom nature and affection prompted to lend consolation and assistance. Even those afflicted with leprosy counted themselves fortunate in their escape from this still more tremendous evil, and shunned the unhappy victims of this disease as they would the bite of a venomous serpent or the shaft of unerring destruction. The poor were compelled to fly from their habitations as soon as any symptoms of the disorder manifested themselves, and to take refuge in abodes of the brute creation, in dens and caverns and trackless forests. Physicians, friends, relations, and even parents forsook them ; the ties of nature were rent asunder, and all social compact was annihilated—so predominant was the fear of infection ! \*

The Greek and Arabian authors seemed to be totally uninformed on the subject. † *Prosper Borgantius*, and *Johan de Vigo* give most disgust-

---

attempts to reduce the city.—“ Although most of these fell by the “ sword, the rest died of fever and dysentery, and a venereal disease of “ the most *inverate kind*, and which appeared in a *very remarkable* “ manner on the bodies of several of their dead *officers* and soldiers.”—*Seige of Derry, by the Rev. John Graham, p. 259.*

\* Laurentius Phrysius de Morb. Gallic.

† Nic. Leoncenus.

ing details of the fearful appearances which the disease assumed in different subjects, in which they are well corroborated by *Joan. Baptist, Montanus, Cataneus, Sebastian Aquilan, Petrus Maynardus, &c.*; but into these details it is unnecessary to enter now, when the disorder is so well understood. It will suffice to remark that in many instances the symptoms closely approximated to those of *Elephantiasis*; in others to those of the *Leprosy*; that the disorder frequently corroded the *Septum nasi*, levelling it with the face; that it fed upon the lips; sometimes destroyed the *Uvula*; at others perforated the palate and completely changed the tones and properties of the voice. These symptoms experienced multitudinous variations, with change of years, many of the old ones becoming greatly qualified, and new ones developing themselves, to the great alarm of those who groaned under their influence, as well as to the extreme perplexity of the medical practitioners, who were yet in a state of comparative ignorance with respect to the real nature of the disease; and whose endeavours to repress its tremendous ravages were consequently directed rather with a view to speculative results, than by any of those positive rules of practice, which the industrious application of subsequent ages has rendered successful.

It is clear, then, from the alarm and astonishment this disease excited amongst the learned, as

well as from the silence of the ancient writers, that no disease like a virulent lues could exist. But some have thought that the particular form of disease which consists simply of a discharge, is of considerable antiquity. Thus learned men have fancied an allusion to this disease in the Psalms of David and the Proverbs of Solomon, where young men are cautioned in very general, but inconclusive terms, against the evil consequences of harlot-hunting. An attempt was also made by Mr. Becket, in the 357th and 365th Philosophical Transactions, to show that the Gonorrhœa was known to Arden and other English writers, under the name of Brenning or Burning ; all those who were affected with this disorder being described as *brent* or *burnt*. The observations of this author are to the effect—that the disease was given to a man who became connected with a woman whose body had been violently heated by frequent copulation with different men, so that the next comer was *brent* or *burnt* ; that is, the urethra suffered an excoriation which caused the urine to be hot and scalding. John Arden defines it “ a certain inward heat and excoriation of the urethra ; ” but as there appears to have been no discoloured running, no chancres with callous lips, no chordee, no stricture, in short no other symptom but the heat and excoriation ; and as it has been proved in numberless instances since, that heat and excoriation may exist in the absence of disease, here is no proof to bear out the

assertion that the *Brenning* of the old writers can be identified with Gonorrhœa.

About the middle of the sixteenth century, that is, some sixty years after the first appearance of the venereal disease in Europe, *Alexander Trajan Petronius* describes its universal prevalence in this quarter of the globe, affirming that it infected old and young, male and female, the fat and lean, the rich and poor, nay, that it did not spare the infant in the womb, &c. *Benedictus Victorius* advanced the absurd position that it might be communicated to a sound person (without any sexual interference) from the state of the heavens, the evil aspect of the planets, or their unlucky conjunction; probably, however, this strange assertion was hazarded with a view to screen the characters of persons affected with this disease, among whom were eminent cardinals, right reverend bishops, and the most pious monks and nuns, who were as frequently under its influence as meaner and more worldly personages. This conviction, too, is confirmed by the language of *Alexander Petronius*, who insinuates that he knew not the cause of the disorder, and that if he did know, *he dared not say it.*

At length the primitive notions and fears upon the subject of this alarming visitation, yielded to the accidental exhibition of *mercury*, which, under

the bold experiments of *Berengarius*, of *Carpi*, *John de Vigo*, and *Fallopis*, became the accepted antidote to the venereal poison ; its success was *universal* ! They employed it in the form of a plaster or ointment, and, without knowing that its antidotal qualities were attributable to absorption, they followed it up from mere *result*, on the same principle that the loadstone is now employed by mariners.\*

In former days, as at present, quacks and impostors existed, to whom the afflicted multitude greedily resorted. These depredators upon human life had their *specifics*, which speedily removed the external symptoms, and the patient believed himself happy to have so purchased his escape. But, alas ! the suppressed disorder, uneradicated by their superficial remedies, invariably burst forth with renewed malignity, entailing upon the credulous sufferer redoubled agonies, which were even heightened by the stings of self reproach.

Impostors of a similar kind still exist—*pretending* to cure without mercury—they employ it nevertheless ; and the patient to whom this potent remedy is administered, without confinement or due caution, often becomes seriously disordered or his constitution undermined. We have clearly traced the development of fatal consumption to the

---

\* Jesse Foote, p. 265.

intemperate use of mercury, exhibited to young gentlemen of fortune by a quack.

Yet the patients of such impostors stand a better chance of recovery than those who have the misfortune to be placed under the care of a surgeon who conscientiously believes he can cure the majority of venereal diseases "without a particle of mercury." Such an error, though it may have received the temporary sanction of great names, is now abjured even by those who first gave it currency, and is fortunately scarcely so prevalent as formerly. But alas! in a profession like our own, there will always be some who will abandon the safe path of experience for the flowery but dangerous and precipitous track of hypothesis; and they will always find dupes enough to trust their dangerous promises.

The full establishment of the fact that mercury is indispensable in most forms of this disease, we owe to *Hunter* and the Hunterian school. Our readers are probably not ignorant that some years ago experiments on a large scale as to the removal of syphilis without mercury were made by the surgeons of some of his Majesty's regiments. It is to these experiments, very properly conceived and very carefully executed, that we owe the introduction of the non-mercurial plan. We feel it incumbent on us to notice this circumstance, because it certainly does appear, at first sight, as if the results

of the trials in question were unfavorable to mercury. But they show, as far as we can perceive, nothing more than that among robust soldiers, living temperately and undergoing strict discipline as to diet, some forms of venereal disease have worn themselves out; though confessedly this new plan was very much tardier than the old one, and the eradication of the disease seemed in a much smaller proportion. Had, however, the results of these experiments been more conclusive, we should have hesitated to have applied to the sons of luxury and dissipation or to the nervous and irritable valetudinarian, the same experiments which might be applied to the temperate and hardy.—Our experience has fully justified the caution.

With us, then, the day of doubt and delusion has passed away; all the mists of error which originally surrounded this disorder have been long since dispelled;—the rays of science have dissipated the mystery which involved it. Yet, increased as our knowledge of the nature of this malady is, and improved as is our mode of treatment, it is by no means to be assumed that the disease has become of trifling influence, or that it carries no menace of consequence to the human frame; for, with all its modifications, it is still a disorder of that subtle and malignant disposition, which requires to be watched at its commencement and in its progress with sedulous attention, and to be arrested with all the force

of medicine, without putting in peril the integrity of the constitution itself.

Thus much may suffice to instruct the reader in the history of the Venereal Disease, and to acquaint him with the opinions of learned writers. We shall presently enter into details of its various forms, under different sections, with a view to render the whole subject clear and intelligible to every degree of human capacity.

## PART THE FIRST.

---

### SECTION I.

#### *On Gonorrhœa.*

GONORRHŒA, is a compound word from *γόνη*, *seed*; and *ρεω*, *to flow*. This disorder, vulgarly called clap,\* is said to have found its way into Europe about forty years after the appearance of the *Lues Venerea*. In the pathology of the moderns, *Gonorrhœa* is considered as a local affection, and is thus distinguished from that more general affection called *Syphilis*, or Pox. Dr. Cullen distinguishes four species of it.

1st. *Gonorrhœa pura*, or mild disease;† and

---

\* The term *Gonorrhœa* here is certainly erroneous, but as custom has so applied it, it may be unwise to offer a new one; otherwise, a clap is a violent and increased discharge of *mucus* from the urethra, and not a *flowing of seed*. The appropriate term which the late Dr. M. Good employed, is *Blenorrhœa*.

† This disease *may* be communicated by a chaste woman labouring under a vitiated state of *Fluor Albus*. We have seen cases where such an origin has been clearly demonstrated.

which is not unfrequently an effect of local irritation—altogether independent of sexual intercourse: a gouty patient has been known to observe very marked symptoms of Gonorrhœa pura to precede an attack, which have *vanished* on the fit of gout becoming smart.

2nd. *Gonorrhœa impura*, or *venerea* (virulent clap.)

3rd. *Gonorrhœa laxorum*, merely a pellucid discharge from the urethra (not the result of venereal engagements) without erections of the penis, but attended with venereal thoughts while awake.\*

4th. *Gonorrhœa dormientum*, when during sleep, and under the agitation of venereal dreams, there are erections of the penis, and consequent *seminal discharges*.†

The first of these is probably the same as that described by *Dr. Fordyce*, under the name of the *benign Gonorrhœa*, as “an increased secretion from the mucous glands of the urethra without infection.” The discharge in this case is white

\* This complaint is more fully treated of in the “Ægis of Life,” in the Section on Seminal Weakness, &c.

† This species is also explained in the “Ægis of Life,” in the chapter on Nocturnal Emissions, &c.

and mild, causing no irritation nor excoriation in the parts with which it comes in contact, and often having its origin in some constitutional weakness, or intemperance or excess of any kind. Of this description, however, it is proper to observe, that though correct as far as regards the usual symptoms of *Gonorrhœa benigna*, cases are by no means uncommon in which “excoriation and irritation” occur although there has been *no connexion*; while, on the other hand, in a few anomalous instances, these circumstances appear in gonorrhœa that has evidently arisen from impure intercourse.

A virulent Clap is an involuntary discharge of corrupted mucus from the glands of the urethra in men, or from the vagina in women, and is caused by connection with an infected person. The quantity of the discharge is in proportion to the degree of stimulus, and its quality to the malignity of the infectious matter received in impure copulation. The first symptom of this disorder is general uneasiness about the parts of generation, with a titillation at the end of the penis; to this succeed the appearance of a little whitish matter at the orifice of the urethra, a slight swelling and sometimes a redness on the *glans* or head of the penis, and a trifling pungency on the evacuation of the urine. The discharge soon increases; the inflammation at the orifice of the urethra becomes more palpable; the parts begin to burn, and the evacuation of the urine is attended with a scalding

heat which greatly torments the parts affected ; besides which there is also a swelling of the *lacunæ* or the mouths of the internal glands of the urethra, with a manifest and painful rigidity on the erection of the penis. The discharge still becomes more copious, grows thinner, loses its adhesiveness, and becomes of a yellowish or rather a greenish complexion ; the mouth of the penis begins to exhibit an increasing redness, the passing of the urine is accompanied by excruciating pains from the distention of the urethra and such general symptoms of inflammation, as to prevent the extention of the penis in erection, curving it downwards with agonizing torture, which is rendered still more intolerable if the member be raised towards the belly. The torture of this situation is greatly exaggerated by the influence of that inseparable stimulus whieh causes frequent erections of the diseased member, especially when warm in bed, attended with a degree of anguish which prevents sleep, or awakens the patient, and not uncommonly produces involuntary emissions of the semen. This is the usual type of the virulent gonorrhœa, but it is liable to considerable variations, for example : sometimes the inflammation and excruciating pain are trifling ; in one patient the discharge is copious, in another scanty, and these variations should cause material alteration in the treatment, and at the same time their existence proves the absurdity of attempting the cure by one remedy.

"It was some time ago a pretty general supposition," says *Dr. Cullen*,\* "that gonorrhœa depended always upon ulcers of the urethra producing a discharge of purulent matter and such ulcers do indeed sometimes occur. We are now assured, from the dissection of persons who had died when labouring under a gonorrhœa, that the disease may exist, and from many considerations it is probable that it commonly *does* exist, without any ulceration of the urethra, so that the discharge which appears is entirely that of a vitiated mucus from the mucous follicles of the urethra."

*Dr. Holl* of Vienna gave the following brief anatomy of gonorrhœa, which he gathered from the dissection of a man who died while under its influence. "On opening the urethra carefully, he found its internal surface preternaturally red; two of the lymphatics unusually white and enlarged, and the puriform matter oozing out from the internal membrane, especially at the lacunæ, where the seat of the disorder was, without the least appearance of ulceration or excoriation." These were the earliest descriptions of the true state of the parts in a gonorrhœa; but at present is perfectly established in surgery, that the matter discharged during this complaint, is nothing else than a secretion from the lacunæ,

---

\* *Cullen's First Lines*, Vol. iv. p. 389.

that secretes the mucus of the urethra. How intense the inflammation producing this secretion must be in a virulent gonorrhœa, is apparent from the great quantity poured forth daily, whilst in a natural state there is a constant balance kept up between the mucus secreted and that absorbed.

Suppuration and ulcer occur from neglect in the earlier stages of this disorder ; or from an improper mode of treatment, engendering various other genital disorders, of which mention will be hereafter made. Some medical practitioners of eminence have laid it down that neglect and maltreatment will mature gonorrhœa into general syphilis ; and that when the original symptoms are suffered to continue, or the infection is extremely virulent, chancres display themselves upon the head or upon the foreskin of the penis ; the mucus increases, and is discharged in larger quantities, tinging the linen with a yellow or greenish stain.\* In process of time the virus lays hold of the *prostratae*, which are two glands about the size of a small nutmeg, lying between the *vesiculae seminales* (or seminal repositories) and the penis, under the

---

\* "If we were to make a surrender of our own reasoning upon this question, and build our faith upon the assertions of some, we should become the slaves of constant deception.—Gonorrhœa and chancres are both the result of venereal poison acting on parts under different modifications. The cause of both symptoms is the same, and the effects will be corresponding to the anatomical nature of both parts : venereal fluid applied to the urethra, produces a discharge of mucus : that fluid lodged on the cutis produces a chancre.—*Jesse Foote*, p. 35.

*pubes* (which is at the lower part of the belly, and covered with hair.)

These *prostratæ* secrete a limpid glutinous humour supposed to be intended for admixture with the seed during coition, either to make it flow more easily, or to add something to its effects. If then the venereal infection reach these glands, it will form abscesses, and in this stage the disorder assumes a more gloomy aspect.

Should the infection touch the lymphatics of the glans penis, crystallines will appear on that part, or on the prepuce ; these crystallines are fine, thin, pellucid bladders, filled with a clear transparent lymph.—The lymphatics communicate with the glands in the groins, into which they discharge their contents, so that in this manner the poison is readily communicated to those parts, and the foundation of *bubo* in the groin is laid.

The duration of gonorrhœa depends much on the constitution and regimen of the patient, but far more on the professional treatment to which it is subjected. Numerous examples have fallen under our practice, of patients who, after labouring for three or four months under this malady, have in less than a fortnight after their application to us received the most effectual relief. This period is in fact amply sufficient for the cure of ten persons out of twelve ; and where the constitution

has never been degraded by acquired or hereditary injuries, health and vigour are not unusually the immediate effects of a few days' care and attention.

In women, gonorrhœa commences with heat, itching, and uneasiness in the parts of generation, followed by a perceptible redness about the orifice of the urethra, extending to the vagina. The symptoms of heat and discharge are very similar to those occurring in men, and are attended with pain on sitting (from pressure), in walking or during any distention of the vagina : the symptoms too are often increased during menstruation. The disorder is sometimes confined to the lower part of the vagina, in which case the inflammatory symptoms are usually very slight, sometimes indeed so inconsiderable, that the patient is sensible only of a trifling discharge. In virulent gonorrhœa, however, swelling of the external and internal parts of generation is not unfrequent, attended with extreme heat and most painful tremor ; here great domestic care, and the judicious interference of medicine, is absolutely needful, to prevent future mischief.

The first stage of this disease has been frequently mistaken in women, even by experienced persons, for fluor albus, and treated as such ; but the matter discharged in this complaint is larger in quantity, generally less yellow, and of a more consistent

nature, than that which accompanies a virulent gonorrhœa. Independent of this distinction, however, a venereal infection is attended with peculiar heat, inflammation, and pain, which are not the general concomitants of a white flux. It is to be admitted, however, that a vitiated case of fluor albus may bring on, by sexual intercourse, a disease in men hardly to be equalled by the most obdurate gonorrhœa. It is merely necessary to make this remark on the subject, in order that the chastity of married ladies afflicted with this complaint may not be brought into question.

---

## SECTION II.

### *On Chordee.*

THIS word is derived from the Greek word *χορδα*, the chord of a musical instrument; but various writers have otherwise named it. It arises from a contraction of the under portion (corpus spongiosum) of the penis, through which the urethra passes. The consequence of this contraction is, that when the upper parts of the penis are expanded by erection, (which action they are from their irritable state very prone to take on) the member is bent down in the form of an arch, as if

pulled with a cord. The contraction is attended with the most excruciating pain, and is most severely felt when the patient is warm in bed. It is one of the symptoms of virulent gonorrhœa, abating as the inflammation subsides, but sometimes it will continue after the heat and other virulent symptoms have disappeared: under proper management, however, it soon becomes weaker, and gradually leaves the patient. Perhaps in two cases out of three, chordæc is to be attributed to the too early use of irritating medicines or injections.

---

### SECTION III.

#### *On Phymosis and Paraphymosis.*

OCCASIONALLY, in consequence of irritation, the foreskin becomes so inflamed and swelled at the end that it cannot be drawn back to expose the nut or glans. This state is called *phymosis*; like chordæc it is one of the collateral symptoms of virulent gonorrhœa: and like that symptom it will readily yield when judicious methods are employed to reduce inflammation, and to subdue the original disorder. Phymosis, too, is often caused by concealed chancres in those persons whose foreskin is naturally difficult of retraction; it may also arise

from a vitiated secretion of those little glands termed sebaceous glands, which secrete a strong unctuous humour, the confinement of which will oftentimes render it acrimonious, and hence a phymosis results. This kind of phymosis must be distinguished from that which is the result of infection.

*Phymosis* is sometimes congenital; it causes a difficulty in voiding urine, and calculi have been formed under the prepuce.\* Infantine congenital phymosis may be generally dilated to allow the free egress of urine—but the cure in adults may be effected by much milder means. Phymosis never becomes so far established as to require an operation, unless there has been some fault either on the part of the patient or his surgeon. When this has happened, the cure has hitherto resulted from a longitudinal division of the prepuce, or by circumcision: however, in most instances, relief may be afforded by the more natural method of dilating the prepuce, by means of a sponge tent; thus the use of the knife has been rendered unnecessary.

*Paraphymosis* is the reverse of phymosis, as in this complaint, when the foreskin is drawn back, it cannot be made to re-cover the nut or glans, from the mutual swelling of both parts. This is a

\* Richerand.

more serious case than phymosis, for when the stricture or rigidity of the foreskin has been unusually increased, gangrene and mortification have been produced ; nay, such have been known to take place, within forty-eight hours after the infection was received. Sometimes an œdematous swelling takes place, and extensive ulcers display themselves. An early application in these cases will alone save the patient from pain and further disease.

---

## SECTION IV.

*On Hernia Humoralis, or Swelled Testicle.*

ALTHOUGH this complaint may be the effect of accident, or of a blow, or of cold, or of many other causes, yet it is usually brought on by the too early use of powerful astringent injections, which produce dangerous inflammation. It is often a disease of the *tunica vaginalis* or covering of the testicle only, or the testicles themselves may be its seat. *Dr. Swediaur* asserts that no swelling of the testicle itself ever takes place in the commencement of this complaint, but that the only affected part is the *Epididymis*, one of the hard bodies at the upper part of the testicles, and which is the beginning of the *vasa deferentia*, or excretory ducts, which carry

the elaborated seed to the penis ; and he attributed any subsequent swelling of the testicle itself to improper treatment. The sudden stoppage of gonorrhœa, is a usual cause of this affection, the testicles being directly affected by the transposition of the stimulus along the excretory ducts of the seminal vessels. Hence the reproduction of the gonorrhœa often cures the swelled testicle. When a patient is labouring under gonorrhœa he becomes susceptible of cold, to which we therefore consider some cases of swelled testicle attributable : it is always troublesome and painful ; requiring confinement from the air, and very often to bed, to prevent the inflammation from maturing itself into a more menaeing attitude ; even when checked in its progress, the hardness and swelling may continue a considerable time, unless espeeial eare be taken.

---

#### SECTION V.

### *Wasting of the Testicles.*

IT is frequently observed, as a consequence of the Swelling of the Testicle, that a disposition to wasting afterwards evinces itself, especially in weak persons. This complaint usually, however, is more

a natural decay than emanating from disease ; and although we have known instances where it will commence almost with puberty, yet it seldom appears till the party has attained the 35th year. This is a singular malady ; for although the reproduction of the original size of the testicle is not always within the reach of medical art, the skilful interference of medicine will always place a limit to the atrophy of the organs, and prevent any corresponding weakness of virility. The sexual power may be generally preserved complete even to procreation. We cannot help observing, however, that on this point the profession are generally much in the dark. All the advice a great surgical authority is able to give his pupils, is to direct the patient to *exercise the organs.* (See Sir Astley Cooper's Lectures.) This was also the advice of Mr. Hunter. Baron Larrey gives a very interesting account of a great number of French soldiers who, after their return from Egypt to France, became affected with atrophy of the testicles, in which they nearly *disappeared*, and without any attributable cause—unless from excessive heat of the climate—the hardships of war—and violent stimulants. A peculiar effeminacy was exhibited, almost obliterating the masculine characteristics of sexual desire—the mental powers, beard, voice, &c.

## SECTION VI.

*On Bubo.*

The Greek derivation  $\betaου\betaων$ , the groin, supplies us with the term Bubo, which is an enlargement of the glands of the groin. *Dr. Cullen*, in his Nosology, ranks it in the class *locales* and order *tumores*, defining it to be the suppurating tumour of a conglobate gland. The chief danger of bubo is from the bad habit of body, or some attendant disease. Buboes are tenderly sore, hard, and gradually increasing, till they suppurate and burst; the wound is oftentimes so difficult to heal, that our plan is always to attempt their dispersion, a mode of practice which has *invariably* succeeded in those cases where an *early* application was made to us; and even in those instances where patients have greatly neglected all reference to professional assistance, *five out of six* may, by judicious treatment, be relieved from the troublesome misery of a running sore. In patients who have applied before symptoms of bubo appeared, we never allowed its evidence in any single instance.

The bubo in gonorrhœa is termed sympathetic, from the great and general excitement of the whole

parts of generation which collaterally attends it; and although this symptom is of common occurrence, yet it is to the neglect of the patient himself, or the employment of improper means of cure, that its appearance must be invariably ascribed. To this subject we shall advert when treating of "*syphilitic Bubo.*"

---

#### SECTION VII.

##### *On Gleet.*

A MORBID or diseased excitement of the urethra may induce gleet, which is a discharge of mucous fluid: when the existence of this discharge owes its origin to causes which have no connection with venereal disease, we distinguish it by the name of a constitutional gleet, as will be subsequently shown. It is, however, more commonly a disease growing out of an ill-cured gonorrhœa, or a sequence of that disorder, in which it loses its irritable malignity, becoming simple in its appearance, but of alarming consequence in its duration, because it may and does often induce seminal weakness and several other complaints; it is especially dangerous as being an auxiliary to the formation of stricture of the urethra, a distressing complaint.

Gleet will remain a *chronic*, or continual disease, for weeks, months, nay even years ; and, under the changes incident to habit and regimen, the symptoms will *vary*, a circumstance which has not unfrequently led medical men into the error of supposing such changes to arise from *fresh infection*: in these cases the patient has over and over again submitted to the routine of pharmaceutical doubts, and not until his painful anxiety has become insupportable has an appeal to our assistance extricated him from error, anguish, and uncertainty.

The discharge in gleet, however, is very much regulated by the habit and diet of the patient ; if he is accustomed to indulge freely in the luxuries of the table and bottle, or in violent exercise, the discharge will be increased both in quantity and acrimony ; while, on the other hand, temperance and regularity of diet and exercise will materially assist the effect of medicine, by gradually diminishing the discharge, and ultimately relieving the patient of his long continued torment. Premature mortality has been the consequence of a neglected gleet ; nor is this surprising, it is a reasonable inference that constant waste will exhaust the bodily faculties, and ultimately lead to their untimely extinction.

Obstinate gleets are termed the “*opprobria medicorum*.” Mr. Hunter considered them almost incu-

rable. He says, “the disease may be considered only an inconvenience entailed on those who have had the venereal gonorrhœa : no certain cure for it is known : it is similar to the fluor albus in women.”

**MUCAL GLEET.** This usually arises from causes independent of Gonorrhœa, and is characterised by peculiar symptoms—the subject does not, therefore, fall under consideration in this treatise—but will be found to be discussed in the “Ægis of Life,” —a work which treats at large on a variety of disorders arising from nervous debility and seminal weakness, which lead to the compromise if not to the extinction of sexual power.

---

#### SECTION VIII.

##### *On Stricture.*

THIS is a disease in which the passage of the urine becomes obstructed, and the patient is often obliged to void it by drops at a time ; this symptom is, of course, accompanied with great pain, producing profuse perspiration, and often fever. In general the urine is with difficulty evacuated, and in a forked or twisted stream.

Although *stricture* may arise from constitutional causes, from malformation or spasm, or from other accidental circumstances, the cure of which must depend upon minute reference to the particular origin, yet the source of this distressing complaint is in nineteen cases out of twenty to be traced to venereal disease, or to an improper method of treating a gonorrhœa. We may look upon the matter of gonorrhœa (after it has continued a long time) as producing a new action in the absorbents of the urethra at one particular point, which forms a sort of membranous band around the internal urethra, the circle of which being hard, and situated within the natural space, is denominated a stricture. It may be considered that the urethra being hollow, muscular, and membranous, and naturally predisposed to contraction, is readily so affected by inflammation or violence of any kind; but the progress of stricture is variable in different habits. Tropical climate, sedentary pursuits, excessive indulgence in, or unnaturally protracted sexual intercourse, are sometimes the causes of stricture; and in irritable habits will excite the disease, without the intervention of any venereal complaint.

*Mr. Hunter* distinguished the *spasmodic*, the *permanent*, and the *mixed*; to which other authors have added a *dilatable* and an *irritable* stricture.

A spasmodic contraction of some fibres of the

urethra is termed *spasmodic stricture*, existing only during such contraction.

A change of structure narrowing the urethra occasions *permanent stricture*.

A union of the preceding causes produces a *mixed stricture*, which is of most general occurrence: in this class will be found the *dilatable* and *irritable stricture*, commented upon by most of the authors of the present day.

For the cure of this mechanical change in so important a region of the human economy, many have been the remedies suggested, but as all these remedies have been the favourite fancies of (in general) eminent men, they have failed in common use, because one medical luminary thinks himself degraded by borrowing from his neighbour's system: the consequence is that each party, though reviling a treatment different from his own, has been obliged to acknowledge its utility when employed by a third person: to eradicate stricture, one professor places his entire reliance on mechanical means, declaring that constitutional absorption has nothing to do with the treatment; while another practitioner piques himself upon the power of relieving all strictures by internal remedies *alone*.

We have gleaned from these contradictory

methods an easier and more effectual rule of practice, which leads us to treat each case according to its own individual necessity ; for, in truth, stricture, in different patients, assumes such different forms, each arising from as many secondary affections, that one plan for all would probably cure but few, if any. The late Peninsular war, in particular, has furnished us with cases so *complex*, and embracing so many awkward considerations, that nothing but the most careful attention could have relieved the number of officers who have applied to us, after many of our leading metropolitan characters had failed in the attempt. We should here close our section upon strictures, as it is impossible to lay down any specific plan of treatment before we know the symptoms of a patient's case ; but that it is necessary to refute, most urgently, one particular method of practice, which has, from the splendid ability of its worshippers, gained too much ground.

These gentlemen, like many others, are wedded to their theories—it cannot be to their *practice* ; for the universal result of every attempt but their own is failure under increasing difficulty. We allude to the practice of introducing *caustic bougies* into such a delicate secreting membranous canal as the urethra ; and we cannot too *forcibly* impress upon our readers the awful risk they run, if they allow themselves to be prevailed upon to undergo this operation. One case, out of many, shall be

quoted :—Mr. ——, a surgeon to one of his Majesty's regiments of foot abroad, came to England to be cured of a permanent stricture which had troubled him for *many years*; by accident he applied to us, mistaking our plan for one of *caustic* notoriety; on undeceiving him, he expressed his intention of applying to a gentleman whose public eminence would certainly induce any one to a trial. Previous to this application, however, he had the good fortune to take a lodgings in a boarding-house; and, among the inmates with whom he became thus accidentally associated, was an invalid, who confidentially mentioned to Mr. —— his case, which was a *permanent stricture*. He further said, “In a day or two I am to have a *caustic bougie* ‘*passed!*’” Anxiety on the part of his auditor led him to wait the result before he himself applied; and the issue both justified and rewarded his caution, for on the invalid's arriving at home, after submitting to the trial, the other gentleman ran to us out of breath, begging some one to come for God's sake, to stop the hæmorrhage, which, after much trouble, was done; yet, such was the infatuation of the party, that though suffering such torment, he applied again and again; the consequences were invariably the same. We cannot expatiate on the ultimate conclusion of this case; it creates a sensation of painful remembrance; but the regimental surgeon placed himself immediately under our care, was shortly relieved of his long-continued infirmity, and enjoys uninterrupted health.

The diet and confinement of naval officers are particularly favourable to the formation of stricture; and the frequency of their exposure to venereal casualty is such as to render these complaints very troublesome; we know this by experience.

Like most other diseases, however, stricture admits of an easy cure, if timely undertaken; and even in advanced continuance, where the symptoms have acquired a character of more alarming inveteracy, a proper attention will remove it without material difficulty.

In addition to our own practical *denial* of the good effects from caustic in cases of stricture, may be instanced the following opinions of esteemed authors on the subject; which are here quoted to show on what shallow ground the *experiment* has to depend for its ultimate success—and that we may, as far as in our power, be the auxiliary means of preventing so dangerous a fallacy from being identified with the *practice* of the day.

“ It has been advised even by practitioners of “ reputation, when obstructions in the urethra “ proceed from caruncles or carnosities, as they “ are termed, to destroy them by the use of the “ *lunar caustic*; but the risk of injuring the “ contiguous parts by applications of this nature, “ is evidently so great, as must for ever prevent

“ the practice from being generally received.”—*Bell's Surgery.*

“ Infinite mischief is every day done by the rude  
 “ and violent introduction of bougies, sounds, and  
 “ catheters, into the human urethra; but the  
 “ misery which has been brought upon mankind  
 “ by *caustic*, is beyond belief. Were we disposed  
 “ to publish a case-book, we could easily fill a  
 “ volume with the pernicious effects of the ‘armed  
 “ bougie;’ *armed*, like the Indian’s *Kreese*, with a  
 “ poison in its grooves, that leaves an irremediable  
 “ wound!”—*Medico-Chirurgical Journal*, Vol. I.,  
 No. 2, *New Series*, page 208.

Mr. Whately, an eminent and zealous advocate for the employment of *kali purum*, and the modified use of *lunar caustic* in strictures, was so impressed with the danger of the *latter* application, as to be *most minutely and fearfully explicit* in all his directions; among many instances recorded by him of its horrible effects under mismanagement, he especially names one, in page 101, of his Treatise on Strictures.

The use of metallic bougies, also, can hardly be too much deprecated—it has occurred that one of these instruments was pushed into the *corpus spongiosum*, producing alarming haemorrhage! another broke in the attempt to pass it! but independently of these accidents, a strong objection against them,

is to be found in the difficulty which frequently attends their application, owing to their liability to become warped by heat.

---

#### SECTION IX.

#### *Incidental Diseases.*

THERE are many other complaints to which the urinary as well as generative parts are subject, viz. *Fistulas*, *Disease of the Prostrate Gland*, and some other affections of the *Testicle*, *Bladder*, &c.;\* but as to enumerate them would only be to swell these pages, we have mentioned such as are most important, and of most general occurrence. If, however, the patient should find any symptoms, of disorder not previously or hereafter enumerated, he should *without delay* describe minutely the symptoms, referring them (as far as he is competent) to the proper source ; but no time should be lost, as changes go on very rapidly, and the views of a just praetitioner being always directed to the protection

---

\* The hair of the pubes are not unfrequently affected by vermin which cause much alarm, they are, however, very easy of removal ;—but where the patient has been imprudent enough to neglect himself, the hair must be removed entirely, and strong local applications used.

of nature, he should have an opportunity of preventing the intrusion of disease upon one of her most important systems.

---

### *Cancer of the Penis.*

THIS disease is merely enumerated to announce the possibility of its existenee ; it differs from any other affection, and no practitioner can be deceived in distinguishing it from venereal disease. There is no remedy but an operation, and this must be *immediate* ; but during its incipient stage, it may be arrested. Cancer has never been eured, but it has been prevented in our own practice, as well as in the hands of our brother practitioners.

Fortunately eancer of the testis is of rare occurrence ; in all our praeticee we have met with but three instances in which it was formed, and neither of these was any way aggravated by veneral engagments. It is proper, however, to guard a patient against neglecting *any* swelling of the testicle, however little inconvenience it may excite.

## SECTION X.

*On Lues Venerea, or Syphilis ; or, as it is vulgarly termed confirmed Pox.\**

UNDER these names is the disorder known ; when the venereal poison gets into the blood, disfiguring the skin with blotches and pustulary eruptions, the glands in the groin with tumours, the nose, mouth, and palate, with foul and corroding ulcers, and affecting the bones of the head, the shin bones, and other parts, with nodes or *bony* swellings, which are attended with great pain, especially at night. To these succeeds a catalogue of horrors, if indeed the patient is unfortunate enough to live until their approach.

For this peculiar stage of disorder, whether in the commencement or in its advanced progress, the treatment must be *constitutional*; for as it more particularly attacks the absorbent glands, the secreting surfaces, the skin, membranes, and bones, it does not admit of a natural cure.

Some persons are more susceptible of this contagion than others, and some retain this suscep-

\* *Pox or Pocks*, from the pustular eruptions not unfrequently attending the disease.

tibility for a time only ; in those who contract this complaint with difficulty it is generally longer before it appears, and requires a longer course of remedies, because the remedies are of slower operation.

Venereal poison is conveyed into the habit by sexual intercourse with an infected party ; the common time of its appearance is from three to ten days, but sometimes weeks will elapse ere the symptoms are displayed ; it is developed earlier when the matter comes in contact with the internal foreskin round the *corona glandis*, next to that if it touches the *glans* itself, but if the matter is received upon the skin of the penis, or scrotum, it is tardy in evincing disease.

Venereal poison does not produce ulceration immediately, but obtains *silent admission* into the system.

It has been affirmed that this disease sometimes succeeds a violent gonorrhœa, where the blood has become tainted from the very long duration of that complaint.\*

The first appearance of syphilis is commonly in the form of a chancre on the *glans* of the *penis* or

\* This is very doubtful, but a disease resembling what is called secondary syphilis sometimes succeeds after many months of long-continued gonorrhœa.

on the foreskin in men ; and on the *labia pudendi* or *nymphæ* in women. It will appear in other parts, however, as on the back of the *penis* and on the *scrotum* in men ; and the *perineum* of women will sometimes be the seat of disease.\*

---

### *Chancre.*

THE precursor of Chancre is a slight inflammation followed by a little pimple ; this gradually exposes a small pustule, the fluid in which is first transparent, then white ; it breaks, and a small but spreading ulcer is formed, sometimes painful, generally sore ; it has hard protuberant ash-coloured edges, covered with a white slough. It seldom happens that there is more than one chancre, although instances do occur where there are two, three, or four ; this, however, is usually the case with females ; *Dr. Hunter* says, from the surface on which the poison acts, being so much larger. These chancres or ulcers are often confounded with

---

\* The entire organs have been known to be affected by chancres ; and we once saw a female pauper, in whom numerous chancres had united, corroding away the whole *labia* and *nymphæ*, as well as pubes, forming an extensive slough reaching to the navel, and displaying the convolutions of the intestines through a mere membrane : in this state did the agonized sufferer die.

little excoriations and ulcers produced by friction, or by irritating sebacious matter in men; and with sores on the labia and thighs of women, arising from fluor albus; these, when they arise from coition, appear immediately, and are easy of cure.

*Dr. Cullen* asserts, that chancre is one of the local affections of syphilis; at the same time adding his belief that it never appears in any degree without immediately communicating to the blood more or less of the venereal poison—"for," says he, "I have constantly, whenever chancre appeared, found symptoms of a general syphilis did come on afterwards."

If chancre be seated in the urethra, it may be mistaken for gonorrhœa, but is distinguished by the smallness of the discharge, and the pain during erection being in the extremity of the penis, or at a particular spot in the urethra, but chiefly by examining, with the touch of a probe or bougie, whether it is callous or not. The lips of these ulcers never appear swollen, but contracted, and of a pale colour; the pus of them shines like melted tallow; it sinks no further than into the cellular membrane, which it *destroys*; and when these ulcers heal, the skin then adheres to the subjacent muscle, forming a cavity of a livid red colour.

There are a variety of ulcers occurring from connexion, and are as variously described, viz., su-

perfidial, elevated, indurated, gangrenous, phagedænic, sloughing, &c. &c. ; and, in many of these, the treatment is directed by several authors to be constitutional, but without mercury : in most cases, however, if not in all, the mild use of it will be probably useful.

---

### *Some Topical Effects of a Chancre in Men.*

A CHANCRE on the frenum is attended with more pain than in other situations ; it frequently erodes underneath, making a sore difficult to dress ; and which sometimes produces bubo, or a swelling in the groin.

A true venereal sore is accompanied by loss of substance from the beginning.

Chanrees on the *dorsum penis* are generally covered with a crust, owing to the friction of the linen and the more free exposure to air, than those on the internal prepuce and glans.

A chanere on the internal foreskin often produces *phymosis* ; hence adhesions may take place between the penis and foreskin, and in consequence the glans of the penis will sometimes force itself through. From phymosis, also, and a sloughing

sore, the glans may be destroyed before it is brought into view.

*Paraphymosis* may also be produced by chancres, but it is generally the consequence of phymosis. It does not of itself any more than phymosis possess any venereal taint, for any cause occasioning inflammation, or swelling of the prepuce will give rise to either of them.

Sores sometimes form sinuses between the skin and penis; if they run sideways they may erode the urethra and cause extensive devastation.

The sooner a sore heals, such a constitution will be more quickly affected by the disease; if it is healed without a proper quantity of the antidote, the infection may gain admission into the constitution without affecting the glands.

If the chancre breaks out again, which however is of rare occurrence, there is generally a bubo.

A man having chancres, connecting himself with a woman similarly affected, may not increase his sores in kind or number: but if his disorder be a gonorrhœa, he will thus gain chancres: or if with chancres in a healing state from the previous employment of the antidote, he should thus commit himself, he may derive a fresh infection.

A chancre may be considered in a two-fold point of view; first, as an ulcer produced by the action of venereal virus—secondly, as a point from which the whole system may become contaminated.

The indication of cure is to produce a change in the character of the sore, reducing it to the nature of a common one; it will sometimes heal spontaneously, but the part will then retain the venereal disposition, indicated by a hardness that still remains.

It was formerly a practice in the French army immediately to cut out the affected part; others applied caustic as early as possible; but the same objection applies to both methods; if absorption has taken place, they must fail, from their liability to produce troublesome ulceration, and to bring on buboes; the latter mode ought to be exploded on the same grounds.

The only advisable method is to fulfil the indication by constitutional treatment, assisted by local means, without the due union of which, the bare healing of a chancre is no proof of the eradication of the disease.

In women, the chancres often produce an enlargement of the *labia* and *nymphæ*; here considerable address is required to subdue the in-

flammation, otherwise the enlargement remains, and an *operation* becomes indispensable.

---

### *Syphilitic Bubo.*

THE first effect of the venereal poison is to reduce the part to which it is applied to a state of ulceration. This is succeeded by an enlargement of the glands in its neighbourhood, called *bubo*—different in its nature from the *bubo* of *gonorrhœa*, which is merely *sympathetic*. Irritation is felt in the groin, which swells and gradually hardens a point of the size of a large bean; pain ensues, accompanied with a difficulty of walking; considerable throbbing is discerned, and even a week's duration will enable it to attain to the size of an egg.

The poison, however, may be absorbed from the surface without the skin being ulcerated: thus bubo will be the *first* symptom. The period at which the lymphatic system becomes affected, varies: bubo seldom appears sooner than a week after a chancre, and sometimes so late as six weeks. When no abrasion has taken place, and poison has been absorbed, the bubo will be exhibited about the fifth week after connection. But it is not

necessary to cure a bubo by suppuration, unless the patient be a very strong and powerful man, in whom we prefer an immediate outlet for the foul matter; here it is also advisable to produce suppuration; but in other instances, especially in weak constitutions, buboes should be dispersed, *if possible*, as we thereby save the party much tedious and inconvenient after-treatment.

Buboes are of three kinds—*inflammatory*, *indolent*, and *scrofulous*; the first are most easy of cure. The general treatment of bubo depends so much upon the patient's constitution, that a regular system can be hardly proposed: certainly this stage of venereal disease might be very considerably limited, as may be inferred from the simple fact that *no instance* of it has ever occurred in our own *practice* where we had an early opportunity of securing the constitution—we allude to the suppurative bubo; for enlargement of the groin will often take place from cold; and the secrecy requisite to be observed by patients in general, often prevents that careful attention which should be manifested in every stage of this disorder.

Numerous patients have certainly applied to us with buboes, but they had been permitted to go on without the proper means of prevention; and that, in these cases, much time must elapse and painful anxiety be endured, as well during the progress of the bubo, as on its bursting, we need only refer to

the experience of those who have been thus afflicted, in evidence of this assertion. Many instances indeed of improper treatment have been transferred to our hands, and the individuals themselves, after receiving the benefit of our skill, in the event of a second infection, have immediately applied to us, and thankfully acknowledged the truth of our allegations.

---

### *Warts.*

A WART may be very properly considered a disease of the skin. It is a small hard tumour on the surface of the skin, covered with a diseased cuticle, commonly of a cylindrical shape. It appears on the foreskin and glans of the penis, in *men*; on the labia pudendi in the angle between the labia and the inner part of the thigh, and about the perineum, in *women*: in *negroes* the wart is black, like the rest of the skin.

Warts follow chancres, and they may appear when the patient is free from any imputation of Lues; but if they manifest any degree of irritation, sexual intercourse should be carefully avoided, as at all times they are very ready conductors of the venereal poison: they likewise follow gonorrhœa, but frequently appear when no local symptoms are present. The injudicious use of violent means

often converts them into troublesome ulcerations ; a ligature, or the scissars, are effectual remedies ; but other means can be adopted for their quick removal.

---

### *Secondary Symptoms.*

THE neglect of the first appearance of disease, or the unskilful management of it, will be the means of allowing *secondary* symptoms to harass the patient, and harassing indeed are these symptoms : rheumatism, heartburn, indieations of low fever, a flushed countenance, and in a short time a true venereal hectic, may be mistaken for consumption : these, however, do not always precede the appearance of secondary symptoms ; when they do, they are generally relieved by an eruption, or blotches on the skin, and sometimes by a sore throat. It occasionally happens that, immediately on the introduction of the antidote, a fresh crop makes its appearance ; and it is to be observed, that after the first class of secondary symptoms is displayed, the greatest care is required to prevent this fatality becoming stationary. In this first class are to be ranked ulcers of the mouth, uvula, palate, of the gullet, &c. blotches, eruptions of the skin, deafness, warts, ulcers of the tongue, &c. &c.

The appearance of ulceration on the tonsils is generally the first proof of the approach of secondary symptoms ; it begins with a sense of pricking in the part, especially in the act of swallowing ; there is a dark redness round the circumference of the ulcer, which is more painful at night than in the day-time ; the edges of the ulcer are ragged and brown, its bottom is covered with a foul slough, occasioning a disagreeable taste in the mouth ; and the sense of hearing becomes sensibly impaired.

The *uvula* is sometimes entirely destroyed by ulceration : it is sometimes the seat of several small ulcers, but frequently of one *deep* and *foul* ; the act of deglutition is here most painful and difficult.

---

All these complaints, however, must be distinguished from cancerous ones, which generally occupy the posterior part of the fauces : they require great and accurate attention.

---

A modern author,\* whose excellent work contains much valuable information, although we

---

\* Dr. Titley.

question, in a practical point of view, the correctness of some of his inferences, quotes as follows an instance from Sir Astley Cooper's Lectures, to show that secondary symptoms may occur without primary affection :—“Sir Astley Cooper, it would appear from his Lectures, is of opinion that what are called secondary symptoms may be propagated independently of any primary affection ; and in confirmation he relates the case of a gentleman and lady, both of whom were affected with sore throat three months after marriage, subsequently with eruptions which were pronounced to be of a ‘venereal’ kind. The gentleman had a sore on the penis, which was healed by local applications, four months before marriage ; but after this period had no primary symptom by which the complaint could have been communicated to his wife : so that, as Sir A. Cooper observes, if dependance can be placed on the report of the person, the case is decisively in favor of the doctrine that venereal disease is propagable by other means than the application of matter from a primary sore.”

Now to what does all this amount; Sir A. Cooper himself states, “*if* dependance can be placed on the *report* of the person, the case is in favor of the doctrine that venereal disease is propagable by other means than the application of matter from a primary sore!”—To be sure dependance ought to

be placed upon the person as far as he could judge—but how was he (the patient) to judge of the *original* sore, which *unfortunately* healed by local applications. The case is altogether an unlucky one for the advocates of the *non-mercurial* treatment, as the sequel exhibits a melancholy contrast to what would have attended a *mild* exhibition of mercury in the first instance—and we quote the *awful* fact, with its great authorities, as a beacon to all who may be similarly situated, and especially to such as are about to MARRY.

---

### *Venereal Eruptions.*

THESE appear sometimes before, and not uncommonly with, the sore throat; both may be considered in a degree external, because they are exposed to the action of the atmosphere, which greatly influences their appearance. Eruptions commonly break out on the face and hands; cold appears to accelerate, while warm water and clothing appear to impede the appearance of the eruption.

*Blotches* are either of a deep reddish brown or of a copper colour, differing in size from the diameter of a split pea to that of a silver penny; they are sometimes elevated above the level of the surrounding skin, and appear on the neck, forehead, breast, arms, &c. They are a longer time in

yielding to the action of the specific, and appear to be produced by the effusion of fluid under the cuticle, causing a thickening of the part. We have seen an instance or two where the patient had but a *single spot*, attended with all the symptoms of the disease : there are usually, however, a great number ; in *Negroes* they have a whitish appearance, but when the disease is removed, the skin where the blotches were, assumes even a darker hue than before the eruption.

Venereal eruptions are sometimes pustular, and go through a regular progress resembling small-pox, scales of a darker colour appearing as the eruption falls off. These pustular eruptions are preceded by symptoms of fever.

---

### *Second Class of Secondary Symptoms.*

There are two orders *in this class* :—

1st. Affections of the skin.

2nd. Affections of the bones.

The first order frequently remains stationary for two or three months, and if the specific has been

employed in too small quantities, will occur again and again; they never disappear spontaneously as some of the first class do: the health suffers more considerably: the patient becomes yellow, and often of a leaden colour; the pulse is quick, resembling that of a hectic fever. The patient has sweats and swellings of the ankles and feet towards night, he is troubled with a distressing heartburn and considerable discharge of mucus from the stomach; these are accompanied not unfrequently by hoarseness and loss of voice, and the appetite becomes impaired.

Sometimes pustular eruptions of a different nature from what have been described break out; they are larger than those occasioned by the small-pox, and do not rise above the surface of the skin; they are commonly of an orange colour; a crust forms upon them, with a hardness of the surrounding parts, both of which gradually increase, and when the crust separates, it leaves a deep foul ulcer of various degrees of magnitude. Such ulcers are generally seated about the arms, back, and head; are difficult to heal, and then leave a deep scar behind them.

The matter produced by secondary symptoms is not exactly the same with recent chancre, but will produce the disease when applied to a cut surface.

*The second order* is the affection of the bones, &c. A node is an affection of the *periosteum* (the covering of the bone) or of the bone itself.

In the former it is attended with great pain in the evening, a redness of the surface, and in some cases, the *periosteum* becomes uncommonly diseased and almost as hard as *cartilage*.

When the nose becomes affected, it feels stuffed as with a cold, thick mucus is secreted, and the patient draws out large plugs. The *septum* separates; a thick puffy tumour appears in the roof of the mouth, with a small aperture, into which if a probe be passed, the bones will be found bare.

The seat of nodes is generally on the shin bones, and bones of the head; their treatment comprises the ultimate of mediæval talent, without which the unhappy sufferer will evidently fall a victim to this remorseless disorder.

A favorable prognostic is always drawn from the paucity of the symptoms in this disease, and when those which do manifest themselves are at a distance from the vital principle, provided the venereal venom does not penetrate the *periosteum* and fasten upon the bones.

A *lues* contracted in youth or middle age is more

easily mastered than that which breaks out in old people, for in advanced age the juices are more viscid and the vital principle has less energy and strength to expel the virus ; hence the difficulty of cure.

The cure of hereditary disease is more difficult than that which is contracted, and the symptoms in a healthy person are more easily reducible than in a weak, scorbustic, or hectic habit ; although an inveterate lues is troublesome enough to relieve, even in the best constitutions.

A melancholy case of the malignant influence of lues is related by a medical writer of considerable talent and ingenuity, of the last century, which it may be as well to give in his own words. He says—“ I once saw a miserable creature, lying “ under the severest tyranny of the venereal dis- “ ease ; the spongy bone of the nose, the bones of “ the upper jaw, of the left orbit of the eye, and of “ the forehead were entirely consumed. This man “ was the most frightful disfigured object I ever set “ my eyes on, nor could I think it possible for a “ man to retain life under these horrible circum- “ stances, had I not seen it. He lay two or three “ days in the passage through Smithfield, as you “ go from the Hospital gate to St. John-street ; “ indeed I should not have known that these awful “ disfigurements had arisen from *lues*, had I not “ given him money for the discovery.”

It appears that, during the Peninsular war, the attention of the British surgeons in Portugal was attracted to the circumstance that the Portuguese soldiers and their surgeons treated the venereal disease without mercury—its phenomena being considered altogether of a milder nature, and curative by topical remedies. Several British surgeons published their observations; one, in particular, we shall quote from.\* After eulogizing the treatment of venereal ulcers, &c. by topical remedies, and deprecating the BRITISH treatment by mercury, he concludes them:—

“ Dreadful examples of exfoliation and loss of  
 “ parts no doubt sometimes occur; but these,  
 “ though they powerfully impress the feelings of  
 “ strangers, by appearing without scruple in the  
 “ streets of great towns, and in the ordinary con-  
 “ cerns of life, by no means constitute a large pro-  
 “ portion of the affected; on the contrary the  
 “ affection of the bones is often so slight, that were  
 “ it not that it could be traced through the pre-  
 “ ceding stages, and that the nocturnal paroxysm  
 “ of pain is so distinctly marked, it might be  
 “ classed, treated, and cured as rheumatism, with  
 “ sudorifics alone. Its appearance in the throat  
 “ where it shows itself when the constitution is  
 “ tainted, according to the same rule that it does  
 “ with us, excites no greater alarm than when it is

---

\* Mr. Ferguson.

“ confined to the first order of parts. They consider it as an insignificant local disease, and waiting for the grand symptoms in the bones, attack it topically with mercurial apozems, or stimulating mercurial gargles, and often actually dislodge it with the same facility that they cure original chancres.”

Happy PORTUGUESE—clever surgeons—long may it be before such opinions become the precedents for our medical tyros. *We* too have had some experience among the officers who have served in the Peninsular war—and their description of the loathsomeness of the women in Lisbon, (of course the lower order of courtezans) is directly opposite, and their sufferings have indeed verified some of the “*dreadful examples*” comprised in the above quotation. How many of them returned home to their native air? Such as could afford it residing in Harrowgate, Cheltenham, and other places for a length of time, losing their chance of promotion as well as their laurels in inglorious retreat, from their loathsome and destructive amours, and finding at last that MERCURY, abused DESECRED MERCURY, alone preserved them to society.

It would be difficult, perhaps, to find a disorder in the catalogue of human maladies which has assumed so many different shapes and changes as *lues venerea*. When once it has fixed itself in the

blood and humours, it so winds about and shifts its seat, now in one part, now in another, that the patient is often distracted with the frightful consequences which his terrified imagination anticipates from this multiform fiend.

A complicated *scorbutic lues* often arises from a former disease ill cured, in a scorbutic habit.

In such cases, when the two diseases appear in the same subject, practitioners can *cure lues* only by reference to its connection with scurvy.

The same observations will apply to scrofulous lues, which is very common.

Although the reception of the venereal poison into the system generally produces inflammation and ulcers in some part of the body, and these most commonly in the skin, as has been shewn, yet there are many variations of it, which defeat explanation, and they have only served to convince *us*, as *we* write to convince the *world*, that it is a disorder which will not resolve itself into a general law of symptom; nor can any peculiar medicine relieve such variations; their treatment must uniformly be regulated by a strict attention to their particular history.

Besides caries of bones; ulcers on the lungs, and pulmonary consumption, are the occasional

results of *lues*; as are dropsical swellings, with other combinations under which the patient must sink: but these ultimate horrors can never attend an early applicant; they only follow neglect and ill-treatment.

Many modes of communicating the infection have been placed on record; such as lying in the same sheets with an infected person, wearing the same apparel, using the same towel, sitting on the same close-stool; but these assertions have too little of observation or fact to support their probability. *Dr. Cullen* states,\* that "this disease, at least in its principal circumstances, never arises in any person but by some communication with a person already affected by it. It is most commonly contracted in coition; but in what manner the infection is communicated, is not clearly understood. I am persuaded that in coition it may be communicated without there being any open ulcer, either in the person communicating, or in the person receiving the infection: but in all other cases I believe it is never communicated in any other way than by a contact of ulcer, either in the person communicating, or in the person receiving the infection."

Cases are, nevertheless, stated to us to have occurred, in which the infection has been con-

---

\* *Cullen's First Lines*, page 384.

veyed by some of those modes which medical writers have decided as impossible ; but they are probably not sufficiently numerous to make any formidable array against such opinions. It is substantiated, however, that where an infected nurse suckles a sound child, her milk will certainly convey the disorder to the infant ; and as the symptoms usually appear in the neighbourhood of the parts to whieh the infected matter is immediately applied, the disease will manifest itself in frightful eruptions on the head, forehead, mouth, face, and nose.—The same may be said of a sound nurse that suckles an infected child ; she soon will find her nipples become ulcerated ; to whieh succeed pustulous eruptions on the face, the nose, the neck, and throat, *sometimes* affecting the voice, but *seldom* the privities.

During coition also, the infection may be conveyed to the embryo-infant, which, in such case, is said to be hereditarily affected. Instances of this deplorable description come too frequently under the eye of medical men : sometimes the infant is so completely tainted with the disease, that it dies before the birth ; at others, it expires immediately on entering the world ; but often the child survives, a living monument of parental vice. When this happens, there will soon arise upon the whole frame of the innocent victim foetid particles of impure humours, too plainly betraying the unwholesomeness of the system, and rendering the infant

an object of perpetual torment as well as disgust; for the devoted victim not unfrequently lives long to endure the poignancy of worldly reproof.

It has also been asserted that venereal disorders may be brought on by lascivious kisses; we can neither affirm or verify the assertion; but the manifest deduction, however, which presents itself to all persons in the habits of social intercourse with such as are likely to be infected, should be to adopt a system of cautious cleanliness, and to refrain from any dangerous familiarity.

---

It is frequently the case that many individuals who have laboured under this disease have the idea of its continued presence so implanted in the mind, that even when they are completely emancipated from its effects, such is the gloomy infatuation which involves their reasoning powers, that it is impossible to persuade them of their security.

Low spirited, vapourish, and splenetic people are the most subject to this incredulity: every assurance is thrown away upon them, their apprehensions and suspicions are perpetually awake, and the slightest pain, the most trivial twitching of

the nerves, every pimple or rash which shows itself on the face, forehead, and breast, is to them a revival of the malady, which to their entire conviction, instead of having been eradicated from the system, has been continually fermenting in the blood, and is just on the point of breaking out with an increased character of destructive malignity. We make this observation in justice to many respectable practitioners, whose patients have really applied to us under these circumstances, and whom we have dismissed with a candid assurance of their being perfectly cured.

The cause of this state of mind at such times is to be sought for in the constitution. People of this complexion are apt to have their animal motions languid and depressed; hence they naturally revolve a long time, and repose as it were on the same ideas. So powerful too is the influence of this despondency, that it will lead a man to the utter compromise of his understanding, by inducing him, even in a state of renovated health, to run to unqualified empirics for the cure of a disorder which has no existence but in his own imagination, hereby offering himself a spontaneous victim at the shrine of quackery and deception. But it is not only after a violent attack of *lues* that men of this stamp imbibe such irrational prejudices, but frequently after they have indulged in coition, when they may be said to have *merited*, but certainly not imbibed, any infection, it has proved a

task of considerable difficulty to assure them of their security.

The Protean forms of syphilitic disturbance have given rise to ample discussion in the present day, but it is extremely difficult to account for the *variety* of opinions on the same subject ; and but that such opinions are disseminated in channels likely to meet the attention of the class of patients just mentioned, they would not have been noticed here. The truth is, that the generality of these clashing opinions and practices has arisen from an inaccurate distinction between *syphilis*, and many *generative diseases*, in which latter class, climate, constitutional peculiarity, or perplexing treatment, have produced changes that resemble *lues* ; and *vice versa*, a syphilitic taint, not, perhaps, on its first appearance, conforming *exactly* to the practitioner's notion of that disease, has been denied to be such at all, until the harassed patient, worn out by different experiments, has been compelled (for his cure) to use the specific to an alarming extent ; whereas, in the early stage of his disorder, the quantity that would have been necessary could scarcely have put him to inconvenience.

The following conclusions may be formed, not as speculative observations, but practical deductions :—

1st. That syphilis, in its real character, has not

become modified by its long acquaintance with European nature—it is in fact unchanged in all its *materiel*.

2nd. That most of the generative diseases, which are not syphilitic, were known to primitive writers, and treated accordingly with *success*; but these writers were unacquainted with *lues*, and of course with the grand specific for its cure.

3rd. At present we have a most obnoxious disease—but we have a remedy for it—and this very remedy, in its proportionate degrees and combinations, is capable of producing different effects in as many different disorders.\*

4th. That this remedy often produces much mischief in the generative diseases *resembling* syphilis.

It is very clear that the first writers were imperfect in their knowledge of this disease, consequently they were inefficient in their application of remedies to arrest its progress. These men were foiled by a gonorrhœa, and then, to screen themselves from the imputation of ignorance, they gave out that

\* An unwilling witness to the utility of mercury (Dr. Titley) is made to confess, that in *callous ulcer*, (or, more properly speaking chancr,) it *promotes absorption* of the *hardened edges*, EXCITES THE LAN-GUID ACTION OF THE PARTS, AND ACCELERATES THE HEALING OF THE SORE.

gonorrhœal discharge was the precursor of lues. Having thus affirmed their own opinion, they had recourse to such copious applications of mercury, that in addition to the legitimate symptoms, the patient was tortured with those which arose from the misapplied remedy. *Anton. Musa Brasavolus*, who wrote about the year 1531, says, it was customary to use from three to eight ounces of mercury in unction, for several days successively. Is it to be wondered at, then, that the same author should announce 250 different symptoms, and amongst them the loss of hair, teeth, and nails, blindness, &c. &c., most of which were to be attributed to such an abuse of mercury?

Mercury, the grand specific, is unquestionably a powerful, and even necessary agent for the expulsion of this disease, in the present era of medical learning: whether at some future time it may be suspended by a new discovery we cannot determine; but it is clear that those empirics who assume to cure *lues venerea* at this day without resorting to its use, only deceive their patients: or, if they do act up to their assertions, must inevitably return those patients to the world with the venom unsubdued, and ready to attest its powerful effects as soon as time shall have destroyed the influence of the temporary checks which these unprincipled boasters have supplied.\* Yet is the lavish use of

---

\* "I think it will be hereafter regarded as a phenomenon in medical

this specific to be equally deprecated as its total disuse: there is no question of its efficacy as a medicine; *the grand secret exists in the judicious mode of its application*, and in combining it with such remedies as destroy all its noxious qualities, and assist in its *safe and certain* expulsion of this most loathsome disorder.

We affirm, that a *lues venerea* (before it becomes amalgamated with the blood by long neglect) is, under proper management, as easy of subjugation as any other disease in the record of human misery.

---

history, that a systematic and persevering attempt was made at the close of the eighteenth century, to banish from practice a medicine which (for more than three hundred years) had been found of incalculable benefit in the treatment of syphilis! And this endeavour was urged not by unprincipled or ignorant men, but by regular bred physicians and surgeons! Moreover, that the most ungenerous, ignoble, and sordid motives were attributed to those few practitioners who withstood the efforts of capricious innovators."—*Blair's Essay*, 3d ed. p. 7, 8.

PART THE SECOND.

---

*Notice to Patients.*

---

THE following communications and cases are made public, at the earnest desire of the parties who have been the subjects of our care, some of whom have intimated a wish to have their names attached, and others have objected from motives of secrecy. To prevent any unpleasant feeling on so delicate a subject, we have substituted the general initials of A. B., C. D., &c.; nor do we intend at a future period to adopt any other plan, nor to publish any case or communication, but such as we may be entitled to make public, at the *request* of the parties themselves to whom such cases refer.

Our general method is to return the correspondence on the termination of a case, or to destroy it, as we may have been apprised.

---

It is necessary to state, for the information of those patients, who wish to consult us personally,

that the hours of attendance at home are from *Ten* o'clock in the morning until *Two*, every day (Sundays excepted.)

Patients who reside in the country, at whatever distance from London, can have the remedies applicable to their several disorders, forwarded to any part of the world, however distant, carefully secured in a portable compass, protected from every possible observation, and in every respect of *convenient* use: they are requested to be as minute as possible in the detail of their cases, as to the duration of the eomplaint, the symptoms, age, general habits of living, and oecupation in life of the party; the communication must also be aecompanied by a bank note, without which no notiee whatever can be taken of their application; but to ensure that seerecy which is essential to the general object in view, it is not required of them to defray the expense of postage, as we are well aware of the delicate and proper seruples that would be entertained in offering letters at a post-office for payment.

Ladies, whose peculiar eomplaints naturally excite a fearful hesitation in applying for adviee, may rest assured that in most instances a personal interview is *unnecessary*, as remedies, with general instruections, can be as well administered through the medium of correspondence.

☞ All Letters to be thus addressed:—

“*Messrs. GOSS and Co.  
Surgeons,  
Bouverie-street, Fleet-street,  
London.*”

---

*Our practice having especially extended over the entire Kingdom of IRELAND, it has become necessary for a Member of our Establishment to make at least an Annual Visit to DUBLIN.—His Address, when in that City, is always publicly announced in the Newspapers during his Visit.—By this means great facilities by Interview and Correspondence are afforded.*

## CASES.

## CASE I.

Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Inverness, Jan. 5, 18—**Gentlemen,*

I have abided by that regimen you so necessarily enforced upon me. I now flatter myself with a perfect cure. The bubo has completely disappeared. The chancre is quite well. I am in the enjoyment of excellent health.

I cannot but again tender you my thankful acknowledgments, assuring you, Gentlemen, at the same time, of my high estimation of your services, and for which I shall always feel happy to offer my humble recommendation and testimonials.

I have the honour to remain,

*Gentlemen,*

Your most obedient servant, A. B.

## CASE II.

Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Norwich, Nov. 20, 18—**Gentlemen,*

Having for some time laboured under the pains of that most baneful disorder, in which youth is so inconsiderate, to the injury of health, I take the liberty of stating my unhappy case:— There is a painful swelling in the groin, which throbs and beats; there is a perpetual gleet with scalding in making water; and also a large sore or ulcer on the yard; the gleet is yellow and thick; my diet is very high, though I try all I can to lower it, but am very fearful of suspicion: my knees and bones ache much. Dear gentlemen, do what you can for me; I am a fariner, married, and with three children: so think of my state. I have not altogether neglected myself, but the Doctor here says, I must lie in bed for a fortnight, as the swelling in the groin will come to a head. Enclosed you will find a bank bill. Write me directly to the Post Office, Norwich, and say your terms. Address C. D. &c. My Age is 37, of a good habit of body.

*Dear Sirs,**Norwich, Jan. 14, 18—*

With what great pleasure do I announce my complete recovery. I have now arrived at as good a state of health and strength as ever: the medicine has been long finished, and my delay in writing was, that I wished to see if there would be any return of my disorder.

I shall be in London in the spring, and with your leave will call and acquaint you myself with the great benefits, and indeed happiness, you have conferred on me.

C. D.

## CASE III.

*Gentlemen,**Dover, June 18—*

You will have the goodness to send some medicine and proper instructions for a person who is diseased: the disorder has been upon him about three weeks, but no running appeared until three days since, though there has been great pain in one groin, and a swelling in the other; forty years old; strong and hearty; requires powerful medicine to give a motion. You must cure him soon, for he *must* be married before Michaelmas.

E. F.

*Gentlemen,**Dover, Aug. 1, 18—*

Your patient is well, and the swelling in the groin is at last dispersed: if you think bark is necessary to assist his strength, say so, and he will take plenty; for since you have proved so skilful, he has a different idea of medicine. Enclosed is the balance of your account, together with something extra. Please to acknowledge the receipt of this to the same address as before.

E. F.

## CASE IV.

— GOSS, Esq.

*Alton, Hants, Nov. 20, 18—**Dear Sir,*

You, perhaps, recollect my application to you last summer for the cure of an old venereal disorder, from which your skill relieved me very speedily, and I thankfully acknowledge your attention: but since I have returned home, I have again fallen into bad company: in truth the caresses of a female friend have served to make me again the victim of disease. Discharge and pain in urining, are the least of my ailments, for I am in universal pain: added to which, by some means or other, I am devoured by *vermin*; for God's sake assist me. Write by return of post, and either send medicine, or have me up to town. In haste, &c.

G. H.

*Dear Sir,**Christmas Day, 18—*

How shall I thank you? Your word is fulfilled, and I dine with our usual party on this occasion. I am well and happy, and for the future shall take your advice. Accept the enclosed from, dear sir, your's ever obliged,

G. H.

## CASE V

Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Bath, Feb. 18—**Sirs,*

Having seen your Advertisements in the Newspaper, I beg to acquaint you with my case:—About last October, I had a slight clap, of which I was cured; but ever since an occasional gleet has much perplexed me. Within this fortnight I have lived high, and held such promiscuous connections with the Cyprians of this city, that I fear disease has again attacked me. It is my old complaint very much aggravated, and unluckily for me, I mentioned the affair to a medical friend, who advised an injection, the application of which has been immediately followed by the most excruciating pains in the testicles. Describe the general effect of what you propose to send, and let me hear by return of post, &c. &c.

I. J.

*Sirs,**Bath, March 31, 18—*

The last medicine has effectually restored me, and without any gleet remaining to vex me; I return to Oxford shortly, but hope to feel no occasion to write to you: if there is, must request your usual attention. The strengthening medicine may be sent as before to Sir \*\*, Bart. York House, Bath.

## CASE VI.

Mr. GOSS,

*Downs, Jan. 18—**Dear Sir,*

I am happy to say, I arrived here yesterday from town without inconvenience, and write instantly to request your farther advice and assistance, for I really cannot bring my mind to disclose the source of my anxiety to our Surgeon, although he is a clever man: and why should I? You have been in our service, and therefore know well a sailor's habits. The discharge continues, but the pain is less. Send me what you think best; and direct it straight to me, Capt. \*\*, Hon. Company's ship ——, Downs.

*My dear Sir,**At Sea, March, 18—*

The packet you sent has, by attention to your kind instructions, effectually saved me the necessity of asking the advice of our ship doctor, though, I think, he has now and then suspected me; be that as it may, I enclose a letter to a friend of mine, whom I remember laboured (when I left town) under a desperate complaint, and I wish you to forward it; he agreed, if you relieved *me* soon, he would apply to you himself. Excuse my haste, as the signal for letters home is just down.

K. L.

## CASE VII.

*Hatchett's Hotel, March 20, 18—*

Lieut.-Col. —— returns his compliments to Messrs. Goss and Co. and begs they will, with the enclosed, accept his thanks for the skilful cure of his complaint. Lieut. Col. —— will thank Messrs. G. for a large packet of the same medicine, as his return to the Peninsula will, he doubts not, in a short time be followed by similar instances of misfortune, against which he could wish to guard himself.

M

## CASE VIII.

Mr. GOSS,

*Edinburgh, May 9, 18—**Sir,*

This is to inform you, that in the first place, I have got an abundant discharge from my yard, of a yellow nature ; and that from the testicles to the point of the member there are many lumps like knots ; every one of them is painful, and my groin is very large, and swells out ; these symptoms have troubled me for three months ; but, sir, I have only told you half my trouble, my wife is worse than myself ; for a man, of whom I sought relief, told me I could not do any harm, and I have ruined my wife, and my own happiness. I do not care for myself so much, but am in sad anxiety on her account. I heard *accidentally*, from one of our young Lords, of your great skill, because I used to take his letters to the Post Office, and I know he recovered soon. We cannot pay you as he did, but if you mention a charge, we will do all we can. You will receive a Scotch note herewith ; so please answer at once. Direct for N. M. in the service of \* \*, —, Post Office, Edinburgh.

*July 10, 18—*

M. N. and his wife return their gratitude and many thanks ; they are almost well ; and would, no doubt, have been quite in health, but the packet of medicine that came by the Leith smack was broken to pieces ; so will trouble you for a box of the strengthening powders directly : if we want more after that, you shall hear, but hope not.

## CASE IX.

— GOSS, Esq.

*Chichester, Feb. 4, 18—**My dear Sir,*

I am happy to have it in my power to send you a most favourable account of my health: the pain, the discharge, and general uneasiness, have all disappeared; your treatment is surely singular; my former follies have generally been punished by three or four and even six months' procrastinated gleet; and now, though the first appearances were violent, yet within a month, I am as well as ever. Your directions have been followed in every respect, and even if you think I ought to continue taking physic, I will do it; although, certainly, I shall gladly leave it off. With many thanks, believe me, dear sir, your's,

O. P. Lieut. R. N.

## CASE X.

Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Brighton, 7th July, 18—**Gentlemen,*

According to our agreement, I am to give an account of my health. The most troublesome part of this devilish disease has gone, I mean the discharge; but the pain in the erection still continues; perhaps my neglect in not using your ointment may have allowed this symptom to remain; but I could not conceal the box, and therefore destroyed it: if necessary, (that is absolutely necessary,) send me some more. I have no pain now in passing water, and have of necessity committed an intrusion upon your law, for I have slept with my wife. Let me hear directly upon this subject, &c Q. R.

(Extract.)

*Aug. 30.*

“As this is the last occasion under present circumstances you will receive a line from me, it is but right to repeat my

" sincere obligations to you, for the uniform kindness which has relieved  
" my mind ; and my future gratitude shall be shown in a less equivocal  
" manner."

---

## CASE XI.

Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Ipswich, 15th Oct. 18—**Gentlemen,*

Having perused your advertisements, I am induced to apply to you in behalf of a female orphan, who, in opposition to good advice, and every virtuous example, as well as kind treatment, eloped from her home about five months since ; but being reduced to want and disease, has solicited my aid. Fearing to expose the child, I prefer your assistance to that of my professional neighbour : my motive is purely Christian ; and at my advanced age, 84, I dread any publicity ; but if the object of our care does recover, you shall be as welcome to my name as to her gratitude.

S. T.

*Case.—Age 17, dreadful discharge, and a swelling of the whole privates, which are so hard, and feel to her as if they would burst ; before they swelled, a large sore was to be seen ; she says it is three months since her first illness.*

Do not give mercury, for I dread that horrid manner of treatment, from what I have heard.

*Dear Gentlemen,**Ipswich, 20th Nov. 18—*

I must apologize for my seeming deficiency in politeness ; but your patient considers herself well, having no sign of disorder now ; the last rules you gave as to her diet, &c. shall be obeyed ; we have got her an asylum with an aged friend of mine, and hope her vicious course will be reclaimed. I am much obliged for your great consideration of her case ; and if an old woman's blessing be worth your acceptance, you have it. The patient sends you her duty.

S. T.

## CASE XII.

*Sept. 4, 18—*

Lord ——— wishes to see Mr. Goss immediately, to consult with him on a case of Paraphymosis, in which Mr. ——— has advised an operation.

*Oct. 31, 18—*

Lord ——— returns his acknowledgments to Messrs. Goss and Co. for their unwearyed attention, by which the threatened operation has been rendered unnecessary; as Lord ——— leaves London for the Continent, he encloses a compliment, and begs Messrs. G. and Co. will acknowledge its receipt.

## CASE XIII.

In the summer of 1817, a young gentleman consulted us in the case of swelled testicles, which was attended with the most excruciating pain. Fever was high, his pulse beat 112, and it was evident the kidneys and bladder partook of the general inflammation; added to all these, his urine was suppressed; for, on enquiry, we found he had not passed any for thirty-six hours; in fact, his life was in the most imminent danger, as sickness and vomiting sufficiently indicated. He was largely bled, and after employing the warm bath, a small catheter was at length introduced with extreme difficulty, from the excoriated state of the urethra. Having relieved him he related the following history of his case:

The young gentleman had, for some time past, been confined in the country with a gonorrhœa, under the care of a respectable practitioner, and appeared to have been properly treated: but business called him to London, at which time he was in a state of convalescence; and had he continued to use the medicines which the surgeon had supplied him with, he would in all probability have recovered,

but a foolish friend recommended him an *injection*, which was to perform wonders; and so it did, for the woful result is above related. Long did he suffer, a striking instance of the danger attending the ignorant attempts of those who presume to handle medicine, without knowing its effects; but he did recover, and we are happy to say, his after-health has evinced the justice of our remarks.

---

## CASE XIV.

18—

An eminent solicitor, in the county of Derbyshire, came up to town about nine months since, labouring under a well-defined case of swelled testicle, which he had considered a rupture, and applied by letter to a gentleman, whose skilful ability has raised him into well earned practice; but as the patient was not examined, no blame could attach to his opinion. The use of a truss, &c. at length produced a sloughing sore on the whole scrotum, which alarmed the patient, and he was recommended to our care. In six weeks an effectual cure was performed; but we regret to state, that since that period, the gentleman has fallen from his horse, and from coming in contract with a projecting bank, he is now afflicted with an inguinal rupture.

---

## CASE XV.

18—

The following singular circumstance deserves notice: During the last year 18—, three brothers have at different intervals, applied to us for relief in cases of gonorrhœa.

Swelled testicles invariably came on about the second day from the appearance of discharge; and we found, upon enquiry, that in preceding infections the same result followed. This unusual coincidence led us to adopt a different system with the third patient, about six weeks since, when he again applied, and luckily he was cured without the testicle assuming its general symptom; his brothers, dissatisfied with their unfortunate amours, have since married.

## CASE XVI.

A gentleman, whose indulgence in venery was frequently followed by gonorrhœa, at length found a wasting of the testicles; certainly they had diminished to at least half their usual size, and this to him was very alarming, on account of a matrimonial engagement; he was extremely weak, and required some renovating medicines, by which his health became recruited; and having married, his expectations were abundantly fulfilled in the possession of fine healthy children.

---

## CASE XVII.

Mr. GOSS,

*Brussels, May 25, 18—**Sir,*

I have the satisfaction to inform you the venereal symptoms, which appeared on me when I called on you in London, have quite left me, after having used the pills, &c. which I received. This favourable circumstance has induced me to solicit your attention to a constitutional gleet, with which I have been troubled for 15 years; and which you said could not be cured while the venereal symptoms continued. The division of the army to which I am attached is particularly exercised, and I even undergo much personal fatigue, especially on horseback; this may be detrimental; but I will endeavour to conform to any feasible plan, &c. &c. Direct for Major-General ——, —— division, British army, Flanders.

*Paris, August 21.*

I am here principally from general ill health; but your last remedies would have certainly restored me, had not the great eventful changes prevented my application; be good enough to send a fresh supply for a month, when I shall be able personally to wait upon you, &c.

The gentleman did call about six weeks afterwards ; he was entirely well, and required no further assistance.

---

## CASE XVIII.

Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Brighton, 28th August, 18—**Gents.*

I am induced to address you, from having read your statement in the newspapers. About two years since, I contracted a gonorrhœa, but which, through the improper application at first I made, and my own general inattention to the subsequent opinion of an eminent surgeon, it left a gleet which remained for several months, when it went off. About six months since, however, this gleet returned, without *any cause whatever* : nor has any surgeon to whom I have applied, relieved me in the least ; and I have visited almost all the watering-places for change of air and scene. I am now here for that sole reason ; the discharge is extremely thick and lumpy, not unlike a boiled pea when mashed ; my age is 25, of a sanguine habit ; ride daily, either on horseback, or in a carriage. Observe, I have not known women for several months. It is my particular wish to free myself from this unpleasant disease speedily and with safety, for previous to its second appearance I entered into an engagement with a young lady, and can scarcely excuse myself much longer ; my excuses have been hitherto plausible, but nothing can postpone this marriage later than November. I throw myself implicitly upon your ability ; and I trust shall not appeal in vain to your feeling, &c. Direct for the Hon.—, till called for, Post Office, Brighton.

*Gent.**23rd Nov. 18—*

The event I have alluded to took place a few days since ; I am now on the customary wedding visit. Since my marriage I have never found any return of the gleet, and from my general health, do not think I shall. It may not be improper to add,

that I experience no impediment nor debility to interfere with matrimonial duties, though your advice upon this point shall be punctually followed. In addition to my former remittance, I add the enclosed, and accompany it with many thanks.

If you think it necessary to write to me, address, &c. &c.

### CASE XIX.

Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Pall Mall, Oct. 24, 18—*

*Gent.*

Am very sorry to be under the necessity of committing to you by writing, my improvement, as shall be unable to call on you before Monday, and thinking there might want some change in the medicine. The discharge is somewhat abated, but the continual irritation which I feel in and round the parts, and which is increased within this day or two, wants to be lowered. It happens very unluckily in my having caught cold in my journey to Brighton, as that may retard my cure; but relying on your experience, shall remain,

U. V.

*Gent.*

*Nov. 7, 18—*

I have taken the pills three times a-day, according to your direction, and think the discharge is somewhat better. They cause a great heat for two hours in the pit of the stomach after I have taken them. The irritation is a little better. Should you wish me to continue the injection, please to send some, as the last is all used. I should have called before this, but my situation has prevented me.

U. V.

*Gent.*

*Nov. 20th.*

The discharge has left me, I am quite free from pain, and trust you will send some medicine, which will prevent a repetition of such a disagreeable complaint.

Your humble servant,

U. V.

Nov. 28th, 18—

U. V. returns his sincere thanks to Messrs. Goss, for his radical recovery, and sends the bearer of this to pay their demand for the cure.

---

#### CASE XX.

Messrs. GOSS, and Co.

Lynn, Norfolk, July 28, 18—

*Gentlemen,*

Having heard of your skilful treatment of gleets, &c., I entreat your notice of my case: it is one of gleet, and has been standing eight years; and is I doubt not caused by many gonorrhœas, and a bad method of curing them.

The discharge is very great, and I have considerable pains in the testicles and loins; my constitution is otherwise robust. I do intend to marry, if by your assistance this impediment can be removed: I may add, that my occupation is an idle one now, being a half-pay officer of the navy; but when married, it is my intention to avail myself of a very active and lucrative pursuit. Address W. X. Esq. R. N. Lynn, Norfolk. My age is about 40.

P. S. When well, I shall have no objection to testify the same in any manner you choose.

Nov. 2nd, 18—

W. X. called last Sunday; but not having the pleasure of an interview, begs to acquaint Mr. Goss, that he has taken his advice, is *married*, and that the gleet has not re-appeared since his last medicine has been expended. W. X. is obliged to leave town this evening, but a letter will reach him as usual.

## CASE XXI.

*Sirs,**Liverpool, March 4th, 18—*

Having heard from many persons in this town of your great acquaintance with all diseases of the urethra, I beg to mention my case: I have had a stricture upwards of fifteen years, attended with a running and a smarting pain when I make water; and on the other side, just below the pained part, there is something like a large wart.

At times the difficulty of passing the urine is so great, that a warm bath, although used for three hours, has not relaxed the parts sufficiently to allow the smallest catheter to be introduced; and I therefore pass my life between real agony and the expectation of it.

I will cheerfully pay your charges, and if successful, will double the amount. Direct to the Exchange.

Y. Z.

*Gent.**July 8th, 18—*

Enclosed is my promised remittance. Any sum is inferior to the blessed relief I now experience. Say if I must continue to take physic. The stricture is removed, and the running has long ceased. In haste,

Y. Z.

## CASE XXII.

*Sir,**19th Oct. 18—*

I beg to acquaint you, that I am so much benefitted as not to require any more medicine: you may think this odd after saying the stricture could not be removed in less than three months; but so it is. My wife has thought it singular that I should have used medicine at all; and I am such a foolish fellow as to be without an excuse: pray tell me what to say. As these affairs I know come often under your eye, you will not be at the loss I am. Direct for Capt. A. (R. N.) till called for, Post Office, Plymouth.

*Dear Sir,**21st Nov.*

I enclose the balance between us, and with many, many thanks. Your hint has answered all my purposes, &c. &c.

Very faithfully your's,

A. B.

## CASE XXIII.

An opulent manufacturer, residing in Manchester, happened to mention his case to a young gentleman, formerly our patient, and who travelled for a commercial house in this city; and the gentleman, finding his young friend had been cured of a similar case, immediately came to town to consult us.

He had contracted a gonorrhœa about two years before, at least so it was thought, from a discharge that issued from the urethra: his disorder increased, and was ineffectually treated, to the great misery of the patient. In time he found a great difficulty in expelling the urine, and many other symptoms combined to induce a low nervous fever, until his friends became alarmed for his life. Upon attempting to pass a bougie, the prostrate gland was found enlarged and no fewer than three strictures were defined; a knowledge of these circumstances pointed at the means of cure; he took lodgings in our neighbourhood; and was agreeably surprised in being able to return to Manchester cured in less than three weeks. We must not omit here to acknowledge the very frequent opportunities the gentleman takes of publicly mentioning his success, as we are indebted to him for continual recommendations.

## CASE XXIV.

*Gent.**Leeds, Jan. 10, 18—*

I am a confidential clerk in a mercantile house, and have been for several years afflicted with a stricture; it was situ-

ated about two inches from the bladder. This application would not have been made but for the violent hæmorrhage I have suffered for several days, in consequence of allowing a caustic bougie to be passed. I was told that a week after its use the stricture would be removed ; so it may be ; but I consider now that the *whole urethra* forms one *stricture*, for I can only make a few drops of water when in a bath ; and to such a dilemma am I reduced that my situation must be relinquished ; and what is to become of my wife and family ? Let me know directly your opinion of my case, as the gentlemen, who are my principals, will defray any reasonable expenses. Address C. D., till called for, White Horse, Leeds.

*Gent.*

*Leeds, April 5, 18—*

Enclosed is a draft upon Curtis and Co., bankers, London, for your account. I can only say, if you will allow me to put an advertisement in the Leeds Mercury, it shall be done immediately at my own expense, for I cannot too gratefully express my feelings for your great attention and care.

C. D.

#### CASE XXV.

*Sir,*

*Newbury, Sept. 1, 18—*

You may be somewhat surprised at again hearing from an old correspondent ; but having been cured by you of a stricture, which tormented me a long time, I took the liberty of mentioning your skill to an old gentleman in our neighbourhood that was troubled with the same disorder.

His age is 65, a healthy man and fat ; he is a farmer, lives high, and rides much on horseback. If this description does not prove sufficient, please to write to the following place :—E. F., Globe, Newbury.

*Respected Sirs,*

*Dec. 23rd, 18—*

You will please to accept a basket, which will arrive at your house to-night, I hope in time for a Christmas dinner. The great relief I have experienced at your hands has laid me under an obligation which no money can repay ; but you are deserving of the good wishes of all that are afflicted.

E. F.

## CASE XXVI.

Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Weymouth, Sept. 22, 18—**Gentlemen,*

Having seen in one of the London papers an advertisement of your's, I have taken the liberty of writing, in hopes you can cure me. I am a married man, 38 years of age, a tradesman, with six children. My case is a stricture, which has afflicted me for 18 years; when I make water it is with dreadful pain, and much sweating and blood often follows. A gentleman about 30 miles from hence, to whom I last applied, asked me if I had played with myself when a boy; this I certainly did; but the discharge that comes away is not *seed*, but green stuff, and smells badly. A doctor here has sent me to the sea, another has sent me to the dairies for cow's milk, and all to no purpose. Physic I have taken in fifty shapes, till it has no effect upon me at all; the caustic bougie was once passed by a gentleman in London, but I will never submit to it again; it cost me 50 pounds to get over that job.

There are certainly two strictures, the one I mentioned before, and one near the bladder. If you think my case can be relieved, I shall be happy to employ you. Your letter will reach me at the Post-Office here.

G. H.

*Gents.**Weymouth, Oct. 13, 18—*

I am so greatly the better since your medicine, that you must send me a fresh supply; the electuary has been nicely useful in keeping my body open. I can void my water in a large stream, and my urethra appears to be much better, for it is not so sore to the touch as it used to be; the blood however continues; you say it is right it should; this seems odd to me; however you know best; my water still has much sediment, &c. &c.

G. H.

*Gents.**Weymouth Feb. 30, 18—*

If you will send me another packet as the last, I shall not trouble you again; for I consider myself so far well, that attention to your general rules is all I need follow. When I come to town, which will be on business in about a month, you shall see what a cure has been made, &c. &c.

G. H.

## CASE XXVII.

To Mr. GOSS,

*Gloucester, July 14, 18—**Sir,*

Seeing your advertisement in the papers for curing gleet and strictures, I will state as near as I can my case, and hope, through God's assistance, you may cure me. Unfortunately, about four years ago I caught the virulent clap, which began with a discharge of yellow matter from the penis, and in a few days an excessive scalding in making water came on; I immediately applied to a surgeon, who bid me wash often with warm water, and he gave me some nitre with gum arabic and calomel to take, and when the inflammation was a little abated, he gave me balsam of copaiba and other medicines to carry off the complaint; but nothing appeared to do me any good, for the discharge continues to this day yellow, and there is great pain in making water.

About six weeks after taking the disorder, I found an obstruction in the urethra, which the surgeon called a *stricture*. I then applied to another doctor, who is reckoned here clever in these sort of ailments; he called it a *Spasmodic Stricture*: my first doctor said I could only be cured by bougies; and this gentleman said I could *not* be cured by them. Well, sir, at all events I could not pass my water. After two years' attendance upon my second surgeon, I returned to the first; but I have been getting worse ever since: he now says there are *three* strictures; and the bougie in passing gives me great pain. I can only pass my water in drops at a time, and sometimes cannot even do that

for hours. At times I have taken different advertised medicines, but without effect. I am married, about 37 years of age, and should be in tolerable health but for this terrible denial: the orifice of the water passage looks very red; and indeed the whole nut is often very much swelled. A medical gentleman from London, who was subpoenaed here upon the assizes, advised a poultice to be applied, which was done for a fortnight, but it only brought out some eruptions, which, when I showed them to my second doctor, he said I was poxed. These strange and contradictory opinions had almost distracted me, when I saw your advertisement, and determined to apply. Enclosed is your fee for advice. Write directly to I. J., Booth Hall, Glos'ter.

*Dear Sir,*

*Glo'ster, Dec. 11, 18—*

I write this for your farther advice, merely to know if it is necessary for me to take any more medicine; you will judge from my report. Since I wrote you on the 24th Sept. the discharge has entirely ceased; nor do I perceive the least obstruction in making water, only when the stream gets about the distance of two or three feet from the penis, it rather scatters more than it used to do before I got my late complaint. I never have any heat of urine now, but a little heat about the anus, after connecting myself with my wife, and this is trifling. Dear sir, direct for I. J. as before.

#### CASE XXVIII

Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Colchester, May 26, 18—*

*Gents.*

I request you will have the goodness to give me your advice on a complaint (a stricture) which I have now laboured under for seven years; and owing to my having been abroad for some time, it has not been in my power to procure any London opinion. I have been in the army since I was sixteen years old, and have always lived a free gay life, especially when on the Continent, yet my constitution is strong: for the last ten years I have been in Spain, Portu-

gal, and France: during which time I have held great intercourse with women, and the consequence has been frequent gonorrhœas, I believe eighteen times: the last was about three years ago; but the stricture has been more or less for seven years: the effects have been gradual, but it is with great difficulty that I make water; the stream comes in two or three issues, and I am sometimes obliged to use the warm bath before I can relieve myself. My age is 45, of otherwise a good healthy habit. A brother officer, whose high encomiums on your ability attracted my observation, has strongly recommended me to you; and if your attention is successful, my return shall not be confined to mere words: but above all do not send me any caustic bougies; they have played the very devil with numbers in our army. I request your acceptance of the enclosed as *earnest money*: and have the honour to be, gentlemen, your's, &c.

Direct for General \* \*, to be left at the Post Office, Colchester.

*Gents.*

*July 30th, 18—*

I beg leave to acknowledge the very great service you have rendered me; and that I should have been quite well there is no doubt, had I not been obliged to live very gay since your last. Your general regimen shall be implicitly pursued, and (if necessary) any medicine taken that may be sent, though I must say I am a child when the draught is in my hand. Let me know if I may hold intercourse with women; yet, if your answer is not favourable, I shall strictly conform; for no sacrifice is too great when my health is intimately concerned. As there is a considerable enclosure in this, please to acknowledge the same immediately, &c.

*Nov. 24, 18—*

Gen. —— called upon Messrs. Goss, to assure them his health has been invariably good since their last medicine. Gen. —— leaves town to-morrow for the Continent, or he would certainly call on Messrs. Goss and Co. again.

## CASE XXIX.

M. N. presents his compliments to Mr. Goss, and entreats his acceptance of the enclosed.

The service rendered by Mr. Goss, in M. N.'s late disorder of strictures, is so striking, that if a public testimony in the papers of the whole case will answer any good purpose, Mr. Goss is at liberty to make every use of M. N.'s reference.

*Somerset House, January 2d, 18—*

---

## CASE XXX.

*Gents.*

*Romford, February 10th, 18—*

Since I was with you on Monday last, have adhered to your prescriptions, and find the chancre is nearly well; have observed within this day or two a little running, but not attended with any difficulty or pain in making water; shall finish by to-morrow the lotion and pills you gave me; will thank you to send me a fresh supply by the Romford Coach, which leaves the Spread Eagle Inn, Gracechurch Street, at half-past four o'clock in the afternoon. The only inconvenience I have felt in taking the pills, has been a little griping in my stomach, but nothing of any consequence. Have enclosed five pounds; am sorry I could not send the remainder, but have so many outstanding bills, which I cannot at present get discharged, but will call or send, and pay you the remainder in a short time. I am fearful you will hardly be able to make out this scrawl. I am, gents., your obedient servant.

P. S. Pray do not fail sending to-morrow, as I shall be without.

*Gents.*

*Feb. 28. 18—*

As I have no further occasion for medicine, I enclose the balance of your account, with thanks, &c. O. P.

## CASE XXXI.

To Mr. GOSS,

*Manchester, June 12, 18—**My Dear Sir,*

I am obliged to put myself again under your care, in consequence of a temptation which I could not resist when in London, at Covent-garden, on Saturday evening last, from a very pretty girl, but I fear she has stung me; the symptoms are a small white place on the outside skin of the penis, nearly the top, very like in appearance to a burn, and the lips (or orifice) are a little swelled, and when I make water it scalds me. You once called me a stoic, but I fear I do not deserve the name. Whatever you may think requisite for my use, would you have the goodness to send it immediately, as I shall receive it then by the mail the next morning. May I be allowed to bathe? Your advice respecting the within, will oblige, my dear sir, your's most sincerely.

I have for these last three months been very much troubled with the piles, which I forgot to mention when I saw you.

(Extract.)

*Manchester, July 4, 18—*

“ I feel not the slightest effect from my late misfortune, and though thankful for your great kindness, shall do all I can to prevent any future application for your advice, &c.”

## CASE XXXII.

*Gentlemen,**Oct. 24, 18—*

About ten days since I unfortunately contracted a venereal infection, which has made its appearance in several sores on the nut of the penis, from whence issues a discharge of yellowish matter; the end of the penis is swelled, and a very slight tenderness

on the right groin seems to threaten an approaching bubo. You will oblige me by forwarding the advice and medicines requisite for the above case. I enclose half a ten-pound note, and will remit the counterpart as soon as I learn of its safe arrival; and will remit more money should it be required, but wish, of course, to save as much time as possible: my age is 25, my constitution good, and my manner of living temperate and regular, and generally both in eating and drinking partaking of whatever presents itself, as I find nothing disagree with me: my life is somewhat sedentary, and I now abstain from exercise, judging much of that to be injurious. Your early attention will oblige, gentlemen, your obedient servant.

N.B. Please to forward medicine, &c. by the ——— stage, which leaves the Bolt-in-Tun, Fleet-street, twice every day, directed to Lord ———, &c. &c.

Sirs,

Nov. 27, 18—

Having attended to your advice, and used the medicine you sent, I am happy to inform you, that the disease has totally disappeared, and my health better, if possible, than it was previous to the infection: the pills had a temporary but evident effect on the mouth, which, no doubt, was intended: it is now recovered. In a country place like this, the reason is palpable for my troubling you with postage; and be assured, should I be so unfortunate as again to need the assistance you have recently rendered me, you may depend on an early application from, gentlemen, your obedient servant.

#### CASE XXXIII.

Gents.

Caernarvon, 10th Sep. 18—

I have been favoured with yours of the 2d instant, with prescription, and since the 5th have been taking the medicine, which, I think, has done me some good; but I am sorry to say, my conduct since the first appearance of the disease has been quite the reverse to what you suppose; and had I sooner *sympathized* with my own difficulties, I have not the smallest doubt but the use of the very

medicine you ordered would long ere this time have effectually removed every cause of anxiety. I have now every reason to believe, that having put myself under little or no restraint as to diet or exercise, the remedies used have not had their proper effect ; and, to add to this, I have sometimes fallen into the same error which occasioned my complaint, and I have no doubt received a second infection. As mentioning the truth is the most likely method of finding a proper remedy for the evil, I accept it, however harsh it may be to my own as well as the feelings of others. I must, however, sincerely beg your indulgence ; and from the above citation of facts, and the symptoms which still remain (which are mentioned below), I presume it will appear to you, notwithstanding the opinion mentioned in your last, that *remains* of the disease still exist. The running, or rather the lodging of matter in the urethra, which has only at intervals disappeared, has confirmed me in this opinion ; and I truly believe it proceeds from ulcers in the urinary passage, as sometimes I feel itching in the urethra, towards the end of the penis. Within a few days back, a *small* red pimple appeared outwardly on the tender part of the penis, which has since broke, and issues matter by a small aperture, no larger than a pin-head ; it is a little inflamed and hard about the root ; although this be trifling, yet, from its obstinacy to heal, which I have been endeavouring to do by keeping clean, &c. I am afraid it is venereal.

I think the pain in the back is rather better since I began the last medicine.

I should be willing, as it is now in my power, if it meet your approbation, to confine myself a month or six weeks, and to take such medicine as may *effectually* extirpate any remains of the venereal poison, if any such there be in my body ; and shall be glad to hear your advice soon as convenient. If the circumstances of the case require a further remittance, I shall faithfully attend to your demand.

I remain, gents., your most obedient servant,

S. T.

(*Extract.*)

Nov. 1, 18—

“Gentlemen,

“I have reason to be thankful for my explicitness, which has thus enabled you to send such excellent medicine ; my health is perfectly restored, nor (unless you think I require it) do I wish any more packets, &c. &c.

S. T.”

## CASE XXXIV.

*Sirs,**Kendal, Aug. 29, 18—*

As I have been obliged to go unexpectedly out of town without having an opportunity of calling on you, I would thank you either to send me some more pills, or to let me know the proportion of calomel, &c. and how long it would be advisable to continue them. My mouth is at present affected to the *degree* which *you* seemed to think necessary. Sir, your most obliged servant,

U. V.

As the bubo is entirely dispersed, and the chancres have healed, I hope it is unnecessary to continue my present remedies ; and shall therefore thank you to prescribe accordingly.

Yours, &amp;c.

U. V.

## CASE XXXV.

*Sir,**Bristol, Oct. 12, 18—*

My only reason for not having written to you thus long is this :—That I have taken the medicines all along according to your order ; have avoided bathings and acids ; and have felt uniformly well ; thus, as you see, I had nothing to write about, until having finished with the sarsaparilla tea. I inform you of the issue, and provided no relapse takes place (of which I hope there is little fear), I believe my health is re-established. I should feel gratified by your answer to this, whether any more precautions are necessary ; and am, sir, your humble servant,

W. X.

This gentleman's case was an extensive sloughing chancre on the head of the penis, which affected the urethra at its orifice, and was attended with extreme debility ; he had but lately recovered from the yellow fever, and was also gouty.

## CASE XXXVI.

*Gentlemen,**Bury, Dec. 17, 18—*

Seeing an advertisement in the Ipswich News-paper, that you can cure every venereal taint without any confinement or particular regimen, if the case is properly stated, which mine is, as follows:—About three years since I caught the venerel disease; and not knowing what it was, I healed a sore upon the foreskin of the penis, which caused a swelling in the groin; this continued for some time, till I became alarmed, and applied to my physician, who soon told me what was the matter; as such I went under a regular course of medicine for twelve weeks, when my physician pronounced me perfectly cured. About two months after, I frequently felt an itching at the end of the penis, upon the skin, which was very much inflamed; but by using a little goulard it soon abated; still the itching continued; and if I drank a little mixed liquor of any sort, I was sure to have the inflammation return, as aforesaid: at last it formed blisters under the nut and various parts of the penis, which contained a thin fluid, which terminated in matter; and having some of the ointment by me that I used in the first stage, I applied this to the places, spread on lint, and took several boxes of pills.

*(Extract.)**April 20, 18—*

“ I feel obliged by your enquiry after my health; it  
“ was never better—the sores have not re-appeared, which I entirely  
“ attribute to your advice, &c.

Y. Z.”

## CASE XXXVII.

*Gent.**Manchester, June 20, 18—*

In requesting your advice in my case, perhaps the most singular that ever came under notice in your extensive practice, I shall be as explicit as possible. About eleven years since I caught a gonorrhœa, or virulent clap. I made application directly

to a surgeon for advice. The discharge was considerable for a length of time, with the usual symptoms of a chordee, but without any sore or other appearances. The discharge and heat of urine was considerably abated in the course of a month, and so far as the surgeon told me I was nearly well; but I have to inform you what I consider the most singular, that although the heat of urine was gone, and the discharge was stopt, still the same appearance of redness round the lips of the penis remained, and looked nearly the same as when I first perceived the infection. I likewise had a considerable mucus in the urinary passage, which continually kept sewing up the passage, without any particular discharge, as it seemed to come away with the urine; the passage was so glued together with the mucus, that I never could get any injection to pass into it. I continued in this state for somé weeks longer, without any pain or discharge, except the appearance of redness round the lips of the penis, which I before mentioned, and the mucus in the urinary passage, till the surgeon told me I was well. I was still not satisfied in my own mind; as I did not like those appearances. I went on in this manner for three years with the same redness round the lips of the penis and the mucus, which seems always to fill the passage, till the discharge again returned with the same symptoms as if I had received a fresh clap, although I knew I had not, having had no connection but with a person I could depend upon. I again applied for remedies which again stopt the discharge; still I could never have those appearances removed, which I mention, viz. of the redness and mucus. I have ever since, up to the present time, been troubled with returns of this nature, have taken remedies of all sorts, but still cannot get any permanent cure. It is certainly (from these returns of heat of the urine) not a gleet, for the redness seems to me to branch up the whole passage of the urethra, on each side. I am of opinion, when I took the infection, the matter was taken down to the neck of the bladder, which must have filled the vessels in those parts, and which have never been removed, although the virulent symptoms are abated, as when I have the heat of urine, and a great deal of discharge, I give no infection to a fresh person; my urine, when I first found I had the clap, smelt considerably, which convinced me the infection was taken low down towards the bladder. I at this time make but very little urine, for after lying in bed for ten hours, I make scarce a wine-glassful. I always feel an unpleasant fulness towards the rectum, particularly after going to stool, although unaccompanied with pain. My urine comes away very freely,

having no stricture, but I always seem uncomfortable in the urinary passage, as when I have not the discharge, there always seems an inclination for it. My health is very good, being able to ride and walk as well as ever; am 30 years of age, of good constitution, although rather inclining to be nervous; but since the frequent returns of the discharge and heat of urine, my erections of the penis have not been good. I feel myself very uncomfortable from the state I am in with these appearances which I mention, as all the medical men say they never before saw such a case. I earnestly entreat your advice and assistance in this difficult case as soon as possible.

I remain, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. B.

P.S. I am in a large farming business, am in the habit of living well, generally take two glasses of Madeira or Sherry after my dinner; never drink much wine. I depend much upon your opinion where you think the redness round the lips of the penis proceeds from; and likewise the mucus, which keeps sewing up the urinary passage, which is the main spring of the disorder.

*Manchester, Aug. 20th, 18—*

*Gentlemen,*

I have enclosed a letter from Mr. —, who has been a patient of mine for a length of time past, and is now under your care. I wish to offer an observation or two on the history of his case. I have known him to have periodical discharges of matter from the urethra for three or four years past, accompanied with ardor urinæ and slight chordee. After undergoing the treatment for blenorragia, the symptoms have disappeared, but the lips of the urethra have always remained in an inflamed state. Such is the case at the present moment, and from what cause it proceeds after such a lapse of time (ten years since the last infection), is matter I think of considerable philosophical enquiry. The scrotum of your patient has ever been much relaxed, and there is a considerable shrinking of the spermatic cord. Your medical opinion (in confidence to me) will confer

a favour. I think A. B. has suffered the complaint to prey upon his spirits considerably, and feels himself in a state of alarm, from which I hope your exertions and advice will relieve him,

I am, gentlemen,

Your's obediently,

(in haste.)

*Manchester, Sept. 29, 18—*

*Gentlemen,*

I am honoured by your communication of the 31st ult. and allow me to express the sincerity of my feelings, at your flattering attention to my letter, and able *expose* of A. B.'s case, as illustrated in your elaborate detail of six others, &c.

It affords me pleasure when I say, that Mr. \* is very materially improved in the course of the past ten days. The discharge has entirely subsided, and the inflamed appearance at the lips of the urethra is also much abated, the skin putting on a shrivelled cast.

I am requested to say that he will be obliged by a speedy supply of medicines, the first set being nearly finished.

Your further communication, under cover to me, will meet Mr. \*'s eye.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

Your very obliged servant, &c.

The above case was cured very shortly afterwards.

#### CASE XXXVIII.

To Mr. GOSS,

*Swansea, June 24, 18—*

*Sir,*

It is now two years since the first appearance of my unfortunate complaint; I was then abroad, consequently was much

neglected: and when I arrived in England the complaint had made great ravages in my throat; and for twelve months my life was despaired of; but, thank God, I am now better, though labouring under considerable debility; but I am sorry to say my speech is greatly affected, as part of the roof of my mouth was destroyed with this dreadful complaint; but I understand there is an instrument used which will greatly restore the speech; but it is only to be procured in London: and as I have heard you more frequently mentioned, I thought it must be only from you I could procure the information respecting this tube: from what I hear, it is a silver instrument which is put in the mouth: when I speak you would suppose I had a stoppage in my head; and were you to look into my mouth you would see inside my throat; but there is more of the left side of the roof gone than the right; and very often when I blow my nose some of my food will come from the left nostril but not from the right.

Will you have the goodness to inform me if you can procure me the instrument I am in want of, and the expense attending it, and I will remit you by post; I suppose it can be sent by the mail to Swansea.

I remain your's respectfully,

C. D.

Direct for ——

*Sir,*

*Sep. 12, 18—*

I cannot refrain from acknowledging the general benefit I have received from your medicines; but the instrument is indeed a comfort; fearing any accident may happen to what I have, please to get me another made. I subscribe my report below, and am, &c.

C. D.

#### CASE XXXIX

Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Devizes, June 4, 18—*

*Gents.*

A friend of mine is fearful he has the taint of a venereal infection in his blood, although it is nearly two years since he

thought it was eradicated ; his symptoms are a pain in his groin and shin bone, and sometimes a head-ache, with an itching in his blood, and a breaking-out like the scurvy. If you think you can complete a cure, please to inform me by return of post your terms for so doing, otherwise your charge for two months' medicine, and the amount shall be sent with directions where to send the medicine ; and when that is taken, if the same quantity is wanted, the same amount shall be sent you. I hope you'll not delay writing by return of post, and you may rely on a remittance being sent before any medicine is forwarded.

Your most obedient servant,

E. F.

*Gents.**Sept. 3, 18—*

I suppose you are surprised at my not answering your letter ere this ; but have been out for some weeks ; and my friend under your care also has been out for six weeks ; and when he found his disorder was abated, he took only half the medicine forwarded, which have nearly lasted out ; and I am happy to say he is, according to his report, nearly recovered ; his pain in his shin and groin is gone ; has a good appetite, and strengthening fast ; and he doubts not but a box or two more pills will complete a cure ; he don't wish any more drops, as he is going out for some time, and 'tis not convenient to carry them. You will have the goodness to send a box or two more of your pills packed in a parcel directed to me, and I shall remit the other five pounds Thursday morning. Please to pack the pills to prevent their rattling.

Your obedient humble servant,

E. F.

## CASE XL.

To Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Gent.**Newcastle-upon-Tyne, March 4, 18—*

By reason of an advertisement in the paper, I am induced to address you on a subject of peculiar delicacy, and of such a nature, as to beg you to excuse my name, but have enclosed a bank note for advice, and shall have no objection to any reasonable expense your advice and medicine may incur, though being in a small trade, a

great expense would be attended with much inconvenience to myself and family. I am a young man of 27, generally very regular habits, and have a most excellent constitution and health; I have a wife rather older than myself, of a very delicate habit and constitution, and subject to spasms in the stomach; we have two small children, the one a year and half old, the other seven months, and still at the breast. In the month of April, when in London, (a circumstance that fills me with most poignant grief, having never in one instance of my life before fallen into such a snare) coming home one night in a moment of inebriation, I was accosted and took aside by a girl of the town; and though, in fact, not connected with her in any act of coition, but by the slightest touch of the parts, fear the communication in some degree of a disorder I always shudder to contemplate, and feel alarmed lest its future consequences should be worse than I even at some times dread; it is only for this reason, and the delicacy and secrecy you profess, that I dare at all address you. All the circumstances I have communicated to my wife, and perhaps there never were two persons more attached, nor whose affection for each other can be stronger; nor even by this departure from every rule of love, and law of nature, is that affection removed on her part: thus my distress of mind on the account can be better conceived than described. She also wishes to adopt some measure to relieve us from those symptoms which though at present appear slight, we know may be worse if neglected. Do not then hesitate to give me your exact opinion when I have stated our feelings, and say if the complaint is what we fear, and whether it can be effectually and speedily removed. Some days after my return from London, I discovered a dripping of the penis, which stained my linen with a yellowish colour, and continues to do the same now, which is about 10 weeks' continuance: there is no pain whatever attends the discharge, and it is about the thickness of matter. On its first appearance I several times felt a sort of itching and desire, which was much relieved by coition soon after, for several nights; when the penis was erect I felt pain of the urethra, which has almost left me, except when in two or three instances, several nights apart, myself and wife have been connected; when this has been the case, I have thought the next morning the running has been somewhat worse, and perhaps one stain in the linen has assumed the appearance of blood. The complaint has been confined to the penis, and about a month since the foreskin was swelled and inflamed, which I shortly removed by bathing it with warm milk and water. I have injected into the urethra at different times acetated ceruse, and white vitriol,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  gr. of each in

four oz. of rose water; and we have taken, between us, four bottles of an advertised medicine, two or three spoonful a-day, without any apparent effect. I have sometimes doubted whether any taint of the venereal disease could be communicated by so very slight an intercourse, or whether it is some other complaint; as some time before I went to London, I had, in two instances, without any apparent cause, a swelling and inflammation in the penis, which I removed by warm milk and water, and poultice, and it went off with a very violent itching, but had no running. Soon after my return from London, Mrs. H. felt symptoms which increased our concern, such as violent strangury, slight soreness of the parts, and since, at intervals, great pain in making water, and violent heat and smarting up the parts. All these symptoms in both are in great part removed, though it is evident the complaint is not rooted out. The only inconvenience I myself feel, is a continuance of the dripping, attended with no pain, inflammation, or swelling whatever, except at intervals some slight sort of aching about the loins, and some pain in the urethra, when the penis is erect, and in a certain position, which is relieved by moving that position; I have felt a good deal of heat and pain in making water; but that seems quite removed. Mrs. —— feels at times pain in making water, and heat and soreness up the parts. Your immediate answer will much oblige; and whatever is requisite to remit farther, shall feel no objection, if you think you shall be able entirely to remove the complaint. Please to direct G. H. Post Office, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and I will afterwards direct by what means to send the medicines.

N.B. Our situation is such, that we can enter on no course that will in any way interrupt our appearance or attention to business. Please to say what will be the probable expense of a perfect cure; and say also whether you think any danger can arise from the infant's continuing to suck.

G. H.

(*Extract.*)

*June 9th, 18—*

“ We are so much indebted to your joint exertions  
 “ for our cure, that, though unused to compliments, we cannot with-  
 “ hold the grateful sense of obligation: and did not the fear of ex-  
 “ posure prevent us from giving our real name, you should be wel-  
 “ come; but otherwise the publication of the cure ought to be gene-  
 “ rally known, &c.

G. H.”

G. H. in his correspondence, afterwards acknowledges that he had, when in London, consummated sexual indulgence with a woman of the town, but suppressed the circumstance, hoping the disease might sometimes occur without the more immediate contract.

---

## CASE XLI.

To Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Gentlemen,*

*Cambridge, August 21st 18—*

Having frequently seen an advertisement of your's of late in the papers, I beg to submit my case to you, and hope you will put me into a plan of obtaining a permanent cure.

On the 18th of July last, in an unguarded moment of temptation, after an extra glass, I caught the venereal disease.

On the 7th day, after feeling an itching, I looked and found a small speck on the left side of the penis within the foreskin, but have had no running from first to last.

I immediately applied to a doctor, who said it was a chancre: he burnt it with caustic, and put a bit of lint to it; and also gave me some pills, which I took two at night, and one in the morning, with a few salts every two or three days. The third day he applied some mercurial ointment to the place, and in two days afterwards, the place was healed to all appearance (and here appears to have been an error in not keeping it open for some time). I applied the ointment about a fortnight, and kept taking the pills for a *month*, at which time I was to have physic, in hopes of a cure.

On the last day of the month I perceived in the spot where the little sore had been, a little cavity forming about the size of a pin-hole; soon after another; they then united and got a little larger, and a little more ointment was applied. This my doctor called nothing more than an excoriation from the irritability of the parts. I continued my pills and applied nothing but lint the last fortnight; in the third week, this sore, as also the other little ones, (which what came from it

caused) healed up and disappeared ; but still there was an iteing and tenderness all about the parts. My doctor said there never was a venereal sore healed without any application but what the virus was out of the system ; but I wished much to continue my physic for three weeks, yet he would not permit me longer than one (making it two months' physic). At this time I felt almost continual pains in my testicles, but this I was told proceeded from the purging, which had let them down.

Having occasion to ride twenty miles about a fortnight after discontinuing my pills, I perceived *in the old place*, a little something like a wart, and two or three others of the like nature on the opposite inside, each about the size of a pin's head, though not so prominent ; on my return I shewed them to my doctor, who said they were of no consequence.

The wart on the old sore got larger, and the others did not.

About two months (being the 1st of this instant) after the former apparent cure, having occasion to go up the country I found the old place much larger, and *red about it*, and at the same time *a pain in my groin* : not knowing what to do for the best, I applied to a medical gentleman where I was, who said *he had no doubt of its being the disease* : he burnt it again most severely, gave me a little white liquid to apply to my groin, and a little black liquid to apply to the sore with lint, and some pills, to take two every night. I applied the white liquid and the black, and took pills for three nights, when the pain in my groin went away ; but unknown to him I did not apply the black liquid after the third night, as I believed it to be a mercurial preparation, and so would again heal the sore before I was cured. I applied then nothing but lint, and on the 10th day (being the 10th of the inst.) it healed up after discharging but very little, as I kept it very clean : at first it appeared red, swollen, and prominent ; I have continued the pills to the present time, and have no doubt but they are well composed ; but my present doctor thinks I need not continue them above half-a-dozen more nights ; my mouth and fore-teeth are sore with the mercury, and ache in cold weather. I take an ounce of salts every sixth morning, the place now appears somewhat more natural, and a new skin is coming over it ; but on each side the skin seems to be somewhat contracted ; it itches sharply at times ; it itches from thence to the top ; sometimes I have a sharp pain in the testicles, par-

ticularly the left; but I think they are not much swelled, if any; sometimes I have a pain in my thighs; and if I lie on my back in bed, the heat causes pain, a sort of rheumatic pain from the bottom to the top of my back and loins; but I hope this is nothing but rheumatism, as I have had it heretofore in consequence of lying about two years ago in a damp bed.

I therefore most earnestly wish for your opinion upon all the circumstances of my case; and above all, whether you think I must undergo salivation or not.

I have enclosed a bank note, and waiting your answer, am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

I. J.

P. S. My age is 23, and health in general good, but at present feel myself very ill. Whatever expense there may be, I will cheerfully pay.

Gentlemen,

Sept. 17, 18—

I have followed your directions during the present packet of medicine, and am in great hopes a complete cure will be the happy result. Several little things have appeared during the course, but did not ulcerate at all, and with them the warts all disappeared. I now see but the slightest remains of it, and I feel a sort of confidence, that another packet will banish all doubt. With my best thanks for your kind attention, I am, gentlemen, your's, most respectfully,

I. J.

---

In two months the gentleman was perfectly recovered, since which we have not heard from him.

## CASE XLII.

Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Edinburgh, Sept. 20, 18—**Gentlemen,*

In consequence of seeing your advertisement, I wish to consult you, and have therefore enclosed you a fee, for which I beg you will write by return of post, and give me your advice on what is on the other side. If you will write by return of post, without fail, and say what the amount of the medicines will be that you must send to effect a complete and permanent cure, I will enclose you the amount, and inform you in what way I wish to have them sent. If you can assure me of a cure, I shall not mind hardly what I pay in reason. I have for this last year or two been very much troubled with pimples upon my testicles, resembling warts: they are, if I squeeze them, quite hard, and a shining white, like ivory: there are four or five as big as a pea, the others as big as a large pin's head, the whole of the testicles are nearly full of them; they are in no pain, but itch most intolerably: they grow very slow, and it is two years since I first perceived the biggest of them: it makes me very uneasy indeed, as I fear in time they will get very large; but being recommended to you, I hope you will be able to get rid of them. I have sent the fee merely for your advice; if it is not sufficient I will send more, and wish you candidly to say in your letter, whether you think they can be cured, or whether they are at all dangerous. I request and beg you will write by return of post without fail, as I much wish to know, and shall be uneasy. I will write and enclose the amount of your charges for any medicines you think I may want for a cure.

I am your's, respectfully,

K. L.

*Post Office, Edinburgh.**(Extract.)**Oct. 14.*

“ Your medicines have had the effect of decomposing “ the contents of these warts, and I have now relieved them all of a “ quantity of cheesy matter; from the relief I experienced perhaps one

" more supply will be sufficient ; but this I leave to you. The following is my report. Please to attend directly to this. K. L."

---

## CASE XLIII.

*Colchester, Dec. 20th, 18—*

*Gentlemen,*

Since the application of the leeches, I have found considerable relief. The inflammation of the bubo is totally withdrawn, and the swelling has very much decreased. The chancre is nearly well. Indeed I find little or no inconvenience from either now, and therefore flatter myself with being above convalescent.

I have desisted from the application of the mercurial pills, upon the supposition that it is no longer requisite, and finding my mouth and tongue very sore through the effects of it. Still, however, I pursue the same regimen of diet, and am very cautious against cold. My bowels are very comfortable.

I am sorry I cannot now personally tender you my thanks. I therefore beg you will accept them through this medium, and remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

M. N.

---

## CASE XLIV.

*Edinburgh, Jan. 11, 18—*

*Gentlemen,*

From seeing an advertisement in *The Courier*, causes me to address you. I had the misfortune, last March, to get injured, and applied to a professional man here. I had a discharge from the penis at the time, but no particular scalding ; in the course of a few days more, I had three small ulcers upon the nut and foreskin of the yard ; he gave me an injection and pills to take, which I did

regularly for a week or so. I then had a pain in the groin, and a small swelling nearly the size of a nut. I then began with mercurial ointment, which I continued to use for about a month, the pain subsided, and the lump disappeared in a day or two, the ulcers and discharge got quite well, and I continued the use of the ointment for a fortnight after every thing had disappeared. About a month after I gave over rubbing in, I got a sore throat, which did not alarm me much, as I had been subject to them for a course of years annually, and sometimes oftener: they were always of the ulcerated kind, and generally burst in the inside. The throat was different this time from what it ever was before, as it did not burst nor would it submit to blisters, gargles, &c. &c. which I continued to use for two months, my surgeon assuring me all the time that it was only a relaxed sore throat, and that it was morally impossible there could be any remains of the disease left, I had all the time a large hard lump bred upon the high part of the tongue. I began to be uneasy, and applied to another surgeon of eminence, who directly told me the disease was not eradicated, and must go through a course of medicine. He gave me some powders to fumigate the throat, and ointment to rub into the thighs, which gave me ease in a little time, and the lump upon my tongue disappeared. I have continued the use of the ointment till within this month. The soreness of the throat has now come on again, and it appears inflamed, but not so much but I can swallow with a little pain. I have also had a place broke out upon my head, which is not quite well yet, and upon the roof of my mouth there is a sore place, which has been there ever since I began to use the ointment the second time. In the cavities of the throat there is a white substance collects, which makes it not unlike as though it was stuffed with lint. I am a sadler by trade, nearly 30, was married at 21, of a good constitution. I have a good deal of travelling, and am subject to take a glass of grog rather freely, but to no excess. I have also at this time, some small spots and dry scabs upon different parts of the head. Your early answer will much oblige, gentlemen, your's respectfully,

O. P.

The following extract from this gentleman's next letter will show how soon he was cured.

"After this happy report, if you think more medicine necessary, pray send it; but I am satisfied of my recovery," &c.  
March 24, 18—

O. P.

*Supplementary Cases.*

**EXPLAINING SOME DOUBTFUL INFERENCES.—Vide p. 28.**

---

**CASE I.**

*Gentlemen,*

*Gosport, April 4, 18—*

I am obliged again to apply to you for advice and assistance, being afflicted in a similar way to my former disorder (when under your care about five years ago.) The case at present is as follows:—A very considerable discharge from the penis, attended with violent heat; a strong sensation of pricking pain in erection, and frequent shooting pains at intervals: the difficulty of making water is extreme: my age is now about 41; I am of a full habit and live free, but take much exercise. Send what is necessary immediately by Portsmouth mail, directed as below, &c. &c.

A. B.

*Gent.*

*Gosport, May 10, 18—*

I duly received your packet, and find the contents had the desired effect: being now free from all inconvenience, I beg, however, to entreat your advice respecting the female from whom my late disorder proceeded. She assures me her body is as clear from the odious disorder as a babe's, and that she has nothing but a discharge from the weakness which always troubles her after lying-in. Has it ever come under your practice, that a woman can give infection from any other cause than what she may receive from sexual connection? Answer me by return of post.

A. B.

The gonorrhœa above mentioned was ultimately *proved to arise* from an inveterate case of Fluor Albus; the young woman unsuccessfully applied for relief in the country, but came to town for our advice, and rapidly recovered her health and strength.

## CASE II.

I gentleman applied to us lately with *a violent clap*, which he declared grew out of a conference with a healthy female, as he never associated with any other; the disease was evident, a swelling formed in the groin, which was with great difficulty discussed; after three weeks attention he was well enough to visit the lady; upon an investigation of her case, we found her labouring under a Fluor Albus, and so extreme was the inflammatory nature of the complaint, that we cease to wonder at the result of her intercourse with our patient; at length she recovered, and the gentleman has as yet found no further inconvenience attending the acquaintance.

---

## CASE III.

Mr. GOSS,

*Nantwich, March 12, 18—**Sir,*

I have been troubled for ten years with a discharge, and my misfortune is to have lost the affections of a worthy husband, who declares he is continually in the same way through me; my age is 34, of a full habit: we live well; his occupation is a farmer. If any thing can be done, let me know directly, and the expense shall be forwarded quickly, &c.

Your's,

C. D.

*Sir,**July 31, 18—*

I have nearly taken all the medicine, and am happy to say I am nearly well, and hope this will be my last letter. My husband has had no complaint since I began your medicines, &c. &c.

## CASE IV.

Messrs. GOSS and Co.

*Lancaster, May 2, 18—*

A female of my acquaintance has, during the last three weeks, shewn strong symptoms, I fear, of a clap; at intervals a running takes place of pale yellow matter from the *pudenda*, accompanied with frequent itchings, and sometimes a burning sensation in making water; she does not, however, feel any other unpleasant sensation. I am quite at a loss how to account for the above case, as I know the female was quite free from any disease before my connection with her: and strange to say, I have never perceived any thing like disease in myself for the last six years. About six years ago I had a clap, which, with the use of some pills, went away in about six weeks, nor can I, in examining myself, make any further discovery than the following:—I find under the prepuce, just about the middle and lower part of the nut of the penis, a coating of a thin adhesive consistency, which appeared broken into small scabs or laminated particles of various sizes, which come off in part, when slightly touched: the colour is whitish, but has rather a greenish tinge, and rather a foetid smell. Can any remains of my old complaint have lurked here? Certainly I have not had any running of matter, or felt any inconvenience for the last six years: but I rather think there seems something like a partial phymosis, as the foreskin cannot be pushed easily from the nut of the penis without pain.

I will feel much obliged for your opinion and advice in the cases above stated, by return of post. Your obedient servant, E. F.

The lady's case was a most troublesome instance of the Fluor Albus, aggravated by a general debility: but by proper medicines the system was effectually recruited in about three months; after which, the complainant found no return of his inconvenience.

## CONCLUSION.

---

IN the preceding pages we have confined ourselves to a description of the various diseases described in the title-page, and have appended a variety of cases illustrative of the success that has attended our practice.

We have abstained from the recommendation of medicines, because we consider a series of prescriptions, in the hands of the *timid*, *the irresolute*, or *the ignorant*, as more likely to produce evil than advantage. The salutary properties of medicine are only elicited by judicious proportion and skilful preparation ; while a knowledge of the individual case is absolutely necessary to decide upon what is best calculated for the constitution of the patient.

In page 76, we have explained the facilities of correspondence—where an interview may be inconvenient or impossible—and this is a highly important feature in our arrangements, for it insures at

once a certain mode of relief ; and that in the most *delicate and secret manner.*

Twenty successive editions of our publications, and more than as many years of successful experience in an extensive practice, have secured to us the confidence of every rank in society ; the enjoyment of which it will be our continued study to deserve, by the devotion of our time and talents to the service of the public.

Diggens and Jones, Printers, Leicester-street,  
Leicester-square.

Lately published, Octavo, price Four Shillings, TENTH Edition, considerably enlarged and improved, of

A PRACTICAL TREATISE  
ON THE SUPERIOR EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF  
**DOLICHOS PRURIENS, OR COWHAGE,**  
INTERNALLY ADMINISTERED IN THE DISEASES OCCASIONED BY  
**WORMS:**

Wherein are exhibited a concise statement of the symptoms of the Disease, and the uncertainty of most other Vermifuges now in use; illustrated by a variety of Cases never before published in any of the former Editions.

BY WILLIAM CHAMBERLAINE,

Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London; Fellow of the London Medical Society; Honorary Member of the Physical Society of Guy's and the Medical and Philosophical Society of St. Bartholomew's Hospitals; one of the Founders of, and late Secretary to the Society for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of Medical Men in London and its Vicinity, &c.

In Chapter V. of this Work, are given Extracts of Letters and Testimonials from several most respectable Medical Characters in favor of the Use of COWHAGE, and in approbation of the Author's Practice; among whom are

Dr. Bancroft,	Dr. Myers,	Dr. Thornton,	Dr. Willan,
Dr. De Valangin,	Dr. Sims,	Dr. Underwood,	Sir David Dundas
Dr. Lettson,	Dr. Squire,	Dr. Woodville,	E. Ford, Esq.
Dr. Murray,	Dr. George Rees,		&c.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR,

And sold by Sherwood and Co. 23, Paternoster-row; Highley,  
174, Fleet-street; &c.

---

The Public are hereby informed that Mr. CHAMBERLAINE's preparations of the COWHAGE, may be procured at Mr. COLK's Chemist, 29, Fleet-street, (exactly facing St. Dunstan's Church, London.)

*Formula 1. COWHAGE Electuary, 4s. 6d.*

*2. Ditto, with double quantity of Setæ, for the Tape Worm, 8s. 6d.*

To overcome the obstinacy of the *Tape Worm*, it has been found necessary, sometimes, to combine other ingredients with the COWHAGE, which for those who dislike either of the above forms, may be made into Pills, with whatever other ingredients a Physician may choose to prescribe, or the circumstances of the case may require. The expense, however, in this way is greater, and varying according to quantity and quality.

## GOSS'S PUBLICATIONS, TWENTIETH EDITION.

---

### 1.—THE AEGIS OF LIFE ;

A Non-Medical Commentary on the Indiscretion arising from Human Frailty, in which, the Symptoms and baneful Effects of  
SELF-ABUSE, INTEMPERANCE, AND LIBERTINISM,

Are Explained in a familiar manner : to which are added, very extensive Practical Observations on

#### **SEXUAL DEBILITY,**

AND ITS ATTENDANT SYMPATHIES.

The whole illustrated by striking Cases.

---

### 2.—THE SYPHILIST ;

A familiar Commentary on

LUES VENEREA, GONORRHœA, STRICTURE,  
GLEET,

And many other attendant Complaints; with a variety of Practical Observations; addressed to Youth and Maturity of all classes—  
each department explained in a series of important Cases.

---

### 3.—HYGEIANA ;

A Non-Medical Analysis of the Complaints

*INCIDENTAL TO FEMALES,*

In which are offered some important admonitions on  
STERILITY, AND THE PECULIAR DEBILITIES  
Attending their Circumstances, Sympathies, and Formation ;  
illustrated by Cases.

---

LONDON :

Printed for the Authors; Published by Sherwood and Co. 23,  
Paternoster-row; and to be had of all Booksellers.—(Price Five  
Shillings each.)—1830.

